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Students divided over proposed police force

By JACOB TOOK
News & Features Editor

University President Ronald J. Daniels and Johns Hopkins Medicine CEO Paul B. Rothman announced that Hopkins may create a private police department with the aim to increase public safety on and around its Baltimore campuses. They made the announcement in an email to students, faculty and staff on Monday.

On the same day, a bill was introduced into the Maryland General Assembly which

would authorize private universities in Baltimore City "to establish a campus police force." Currently, private institutions do not have this authority, although several public schools in Baltimore, including Morgan State University and Coppin State University, maintain their own police departments.

Students are divided over whether a campus police force would effectively increase safety at Hopkins and in its neighboring communities.

In an email to *The News-Letter*, Vice President for Communications Susan

Ridge explained why Hopkins supports this bill.

"The importance of establishing a University police department is based on numerous benefits to the Johns Hopkins community," she wrote. "Most of our peer institutions and the vast majority of public universities already have university police departments with armed law enforcement officers."

"From the inception of this idea... it should have been disseminated to the public."

— ALYSSA THOMAS, SOPHOMORE

A c - cording to Ridge, the benefits of a Hopkins police force include the ability to share and receive confidential information with the Baltimore Police Department (BPD), collaborate with BPD on investigations at Hopkins, act as a visible deterrent to street crime and respond more effectively to active shooter threats.

Kwame Alston, the president of the Black Student Union (BSU), explained why the BSU does not support the creation of a private police force.

"We've seen a history of racial discrimination with Hop Cops — the way they categorize us, statements that have been made," Alston said. "We don't feel as though that will make us

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"GUNS DOWN, GRADES UP"



COURTESY OF JACOB TOOK

Hundreds of Baltimore high schoolers marched to City Hall on Tuesday calling for stricter gun control after the Parkland, Fla. shooting. See page A2.

FAS shuts down İlker Başbuğ talk after protests

By EMILY MCDONALD
For *The News-Letter*

The Foreign Affairs Symposium (FAS) hosted former head of the Turkish military İlker Başbuğ as its second event this semester on Tuesday. The talk was co-hosted by European Horizons and moderated by Lisel Hintz, assistant professor of International Relations and European Studies at the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS).

Protesters disrupted the event during Başbuğ's talk and as a result the organizers cancelled the question and answer session.

The event was first interrupted by a Hopkins non-affiliate, who condemned the Turkish bombing of Afrin, a predominantly Kurdish district and city in northern Syria. The Kurds, an ethnic minority, have been pushing to create an independent state since the 1970s.

FAS staff and campus security escorted the protester into the lobby, where he continued to shout and repeatedly attempted to re-enter the auditorium.

Before the first protest, Başbuğ delivered opening remarks. He referred to a quote by former U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt that "rules are not necessarily sacred — principles are." Başbuğ said that he has applied this idea to his

policy-making.

Başbuğ has been a controversial figure in Turkey. He was convicted during the Ergenekon trials in 2013, in which almost 300 high-profile individuals were accused of being members of Ergenekon, an alleged terrorist organization that was suspected of plotting to overthrow the Turkish government.

Though initially sentenced to life in prison, the Constitutional Court of Turkey overturned his conviction after he claimed that his freedoms had been violated. He was released after 26 months in prison.

Hintz acknowledged the sensitivity of the event and expressed her support for free expression. However,

SEE SYMPOSIUM, PAGE A6

University releases update on Roadmap to Diversity

By SARAH Y. KIM
News & Features Editor

In early 2016, the University released the Roadmap on Diversity and Inclusion, a document detailing plans to help make Hopkins a more diverse campus. On Sunday, about two years after the Roadmap's release, the University published a progress report on the Roadmap.

The report outlines developments on the Roadmap's four major goals: increasing the diversity of the Hopkins community, improving opportunities for Hopkins community members of all back-

grounds, enabling robust engagement with diverse viewpoints and fostering a climate of respect.

The University released the Roadmap partly in response to a list of demands made by the Black Student Union (BSU) in November 2015. These demands overlapped with those the BSU had upon its founding in 1968.

The 2015 demands include increasing the number of full-time African-American faculty members, making the Center for Africana Studies an academic department and insisting the University take direct action against affiliates

who discriminate against black students.

According to the report, the University is hiring more faculty members who identify as underrepresented minorities (URM). The report refers to the Faculty Diversity Initiative (FDI), a \$25 million effort launched in 2015 to increase the number of URM faculty through restructured hiring practices. However, the report does not claim that the FDI is directly responsible for the increase in URMs among new hires.

The report also states that from 2015-2016, 10 percent of newly hired professors identified as URM,

and seven percent of hires were black. In 2016-2017, 19 percent of newly hired professors identified as URM and 11.5 percent of hires were black.

However, faculty retention has become a growing problem for the University. Despite the increased percentage of new hires who are URM, the report notes there has also been an increase in URM faculty departures from 2016-2017.

Senior Kwame Alston, president of the BSU, said that the report shows that the Roadmap has failed to meet many of its goals and that hiring new URM

SEE ROADMAP, PAGE A5



RUFIOUS-CROWNED SPARROW/CC BY-SA 3.0

The Club moved from Homewood Museum to its current location 81 years ago.

By JOHN FRYE
For *The News-Letter*

In the fall of 1899, historian Herbert Baxter Adams organized the Johns Hopkins Club to provide University affiliates with a place to dine together and share ideas.

The Club, which admitted only faculty, alumni and graduate students, was one of the first social organizations in Baltimore exclusively for the Hopkins community.

In its first 20 years, the Club moved between multiple buildings throughout the city, at one point settling in the Carroll Mansion, now known as the Homewood Museum. However, when the Carroll Mansion was designated a museum in 1929, the Club found itself without a home.

Unable to find a stable location, membership dwindle

d until 1936, when the wealthy Marburg family gifted the Club with \$50,000 for a permanent facility.

Today, the Club is located on the east side of Homewood campus near the President's Mansion, where it has been since 1937. The building offers guests traditional amenities as well as a glimpse into the past.

Stuart Leslie, a professor in the department of history of science and technology, is currently compiling a history of Hopkins. He has researched the Club's historical significance and the changes it has undergone over the years.

He elaborated on the Club's founding as well as its role in the Hopkins community.

"The idea was that the club would be an intellectual gathering place," he said. "People could discuss their research, writing, and talk

SEE HOPKINS CLUB, PAGE A4

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Falling in love with cats & dogs



Alizay Jalisi talks about how she developed her love for both animals after volunteering at the Baltimore Humane Society.

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Sustainability is fashionable

Planet Runway hosts an event where students presented their creations of sustainable fashion. ARTS, PAGE B5

A private police department

In this week's editorial, *The News-Letter* argues that establishing a private police department for Hopkins is not the solution. EDITORIAL, PAGE A10

NEWS & FEATURES

Baltimore high schoolers march for gun control



COURTESY OF JACOB TOOK

Students from various high schools in Baltimore called for gun control.

By **SARAH Y. KIM**
News & Features Editor

Hundreds of high school students in Baltimore passed through Homewood Campus protesting school gun violence around noon on Tuesday. The march was part of a walkout to City Hall.

The students chanted “guns down, grades up” and carried signs reading slogans such as “When Will it End?” and “books not bullets.” Police cars and motorcycles drove alongside the demonstrators, and a helicopter flew overhead.

The students followed a code of conduct, which required them to protest peacefully, walk on sidewalks and to cooperate with police officers.

The march began at Friends School of Baltimore (Friends) and ended with a 17 minute lie-in at City Hall. Participants came from a variety of high schools, including the Friends School of Baltimore, Baltimore City College and Paul Laurence Dunbar High School.

The walkout is one of the latest taking place from coast to coast since a shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Fla. that killed 17 people on Feb. 14. It was one of the deadliest school shootings of all time.

After passing through Homewood, the protestors passed The Baltimore Lab School and the *Baltimore Sun* headquarters before stopping at City Hall.

At the lie-in, Mayor Catherine E. Pugh and Baltimore Police Commissioner Darryl De Sousa voiced their support for the students. Pugh said that the City plans to spend \$100,000 to transport student demonstrators to a national march for gun control in Washington, D.C. scheduled for March 24.

Friends senior Daniel Gittelsohn condemned the current lack of gun control legislation.

“No one needs an assault rifle in their home for any reason,” he said. “Enough is enough with all of these school shootings and other shootings as well.”

Friends senior Nisha Rao agreed that the second amendment is outdated.

“In no world should kids my age or even younger have to deal with having guns in their homes, in their schools, in their lives,” Rao said.

Friends student Amee Rothman organized a Facebook group to spread word of the protest. On Twitter, the hashtag #GunsDownGradesUp trended locally.

Rao explained the chosen route for the demonstration.

“This route helped because it goes through a lot of school campuses, so there are a lot of places for people to join us if they couldn’t get a ride to start at Friends,” she said. “It’s a pretty direct route to City Hall.”

According to the *Baltimore*

Sun, Rothman stated that demonstrators from Friends will receive detention on Saturday. They will also be in contact with Friends faculty about how to alleviate gun violence in Baltimore.

Baltimore students are demanding that Maryland lawmakers support the “red flag law.” The bill would allow law enforcement to temporarily confiscate firearms from gun owners who pose a serious threat to themselves or others. Additionally, students are demanding a ban on detachable magazines capable of holding more than 10 rounds of ammunition.

Students also demanded that gun control safety drills and assailant event training be enacted in high schools. They also demanded that schools establish social work and counseling services to prevent a culture of violence and called for follow-up investigations to be conducted for allegations of police misconduct in schools.

Free food initiative considers student feedback

By **SIRI TUMMALA**
Senior Staff Writer

In Spring 2017, the Free Food Waste Remediation Initiative launched at the Spring Open House and Overnight Program (SOHOP). The program alerts students of free food leftover from campus events and has amassed almost 2,000 subscribers.

Noah Erwin, who graduated in 2016, came up with the program as a way to reduce food waste on campus. Erwin met with Leana Houser, the recycling manager of Hopkins, to expand upon the idea.

Houser worked with Nemo Kelle, who graduated in fall 2016, to perform a feasibility study to find out if the University needed the program and to figure out an appropriate alert system.

Keller researched technologies that could support the initiative. She is currently working on expanding the program to other Hopkins campuses.

Houser described a couple of issues that she and Keller are still working to resolve. She explained that most people on the fall semester surveys indicated that they wanted to have text notifications instead of emails, but there are some technical difficulties in implementing text notifications.

Houser explained why

text message alerts were not used when the program launched.

“When people signed up, we gave them the option to sign up for texts, emails or for both,” Houser said. “We intentionally held back on activating the text option until the second semester because we wanted to see how things went with the emails and because it costs money to implement texting.”

Another issue is not being able to quantify the impact that the Initiative has had on reducing food waste.

“We know people are happy with the program since we have done surveys,” she said. “But we have no way to measure the amount of food we have diverted and saved from being thrown away or the number of people who have actually shown up to get food.”

In the past, Keller and Houser would use the number of people who RSVP’d to each individual event on the Initiative’s website to gauge how many students were actually attending. However, not everyone who went to

the events would RSVP. To address this issue, they are looking at using Google Analytics to take a closer look at how many people RSVP versus how many actually attend.

Moreover, the Initiative collaborates with other food providers on campus.

“I meet with Bon Appetit, Dining and Housing every month, and they are very supportive of it. They love it because it’s less food the caterers have to bring back,” Houser said.

Private caterers noticed that the Initiative used paper utensils and plates left over from other events.

To address this problem, Keller and Houser decided to organize an event with free Insomnia cookies and free Tupperware containers. The event aimed to encourage people to use collapsible containers to limit the amount of paper goods used.

Furthermore, users of the program feel that it has helped combat food insecurity on campus. Houser noted that 10 percent of survey participants say they use the program to get food when money is tight.

“Most people from the outside would not think that there are some students at Hopkins who are food insecure but there definitely are,” said Houser. “We think it is more so in the graduate student population.”

Cassidy Quiros, a sophomore, works with the Initiative as the Homewood Recycling Food Waste Intern. While Keller continues to work on the technology aspect of the program, Quiros took over Keller’s role in coordinating the implementation and development of the initiative at Hopkins.

“I feel like the process has been a lot of troubleshooting to get to this point. There has always been a lot of little problems throughout the whole process, and we have been able to figure out a lot of them,” Quiros said. “Free food alerts are going a lot more smoothly now that the technical problems were worked out.”

Sophomore Sara Nutter, described her motivation to subscribe to free food alerts.

“I care about the environment. I thought it would be a great way to contribute to reducing food waste,” she said.

Nutter hopes to be attend more free food events.

“There are a lot of events on campus during different times of the day where you can get free food, but it just hasn’t worked out,” she said.

Osler Medical Symposium kicks off lineup with public health panel

By **MORGAN OME**
News & Features Editor

The Osler Medical Symposium (OMS) kicked off its first event, “Baltimore in the 21st Century: A Commissioner’s Perspective,” on Friday, March 2 in Gilman Hall. OMS is a new student-run speaker series that aims to bring high-profile guests in the field of medicine to Hopkins. The series is named after William Osler, one of the four founding physicians of the Hopkins Hospital.

The panel featured Dr. Peter Beilenson and Dr. Joshua Sharfstein, both of whom served as former Baltimore health commissioners, as well as Dr. Michelle Gourdine, the former deputy secretary for public health in Maryland. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Leana Wen, the current health commissioner for Baltimore.

Wen explained that health is influenced by many factors, including housing, poverty and unemployment.

“So often, we understand health to be what happens when you are in a hospital. But actually, that’s not what determines how long someone lives or how well someone lives,” she said.

Wen recalled her interactions with a young patient who was frequently in the emergency room due to breathing problems. Although she was able to administer treatment to help him in the short term, Wen said she was unable to do anything about living conditions which contributed to those problems.

“It really made me question this narrative that exists: this pervasive narrative of choice,” she said. “What we have to recognize is that this choice is based on privi-

lege... public health seeks to... level the playing field so that we’re giving every child, every person an opportunity to thrive.”

Wen gave three examples of work that her department has done to improve the health conditions of Baltimoreans. In order to address the opioid epidemic, Wen said that she increased the supply of Narcan in the City, which in turn resulted in over 1,600 people’s lives being saved. Another initiative, Vision for Baltimore, provides eye screenings and glasses for every child in Baltimore City Public Schools. Lastly, Wen described a bill that switched the standard drink in kid’s meals from soda to milk or water.

Beilenson described his career in medicine, specifically his tenure as commissioner. He believes there are four necessary components of a community: safe and affordable housing in non-violent neighborhoods, access to healthcare, and healthy food, a strong public education system, and access to livable-wage jobs.

Beilenson also discussed his views on healthcare. He ran the non-profit insurance company, Evergreen, from 2012 to 2017. Although Beilenson stepped down from Evergreen, he says he still supports single-payer health insurance.

“There are just far too many perverse incentives to hold off our care, to delay things, to not do things in the best interest of the patient, even within a non-profit health insurance company,” he said.

Sharfstein, who succeeded Beilenson as health commissioner for Baltimore, recounted how he handled challenges, such as fighting

for vaccines and making sure prescription drugs are accessible to the public.

Sharfstein became health commissioner at the end of 2015. At the beginning of 2016, Medicare began offering prescription drug benefits to patients, and Sharfstein had to figure out how to make sure that Baltimoreans were able to obtain necessary medication.

“One of the things they did to make the pharmaceutical industry happy in passing the law was they said that patients who today are getting drugs through the Medicaid program would have to switch to this new privatized program,” he said.

Ultimately, the Health Department decided to back up the pharmacies by paying for patients’ medication so that there would be no delay.

“If it’s one patient who can’t get their pharmaceuticals, it’s a clinical problem. But if it’s 28,000 people—the most vulnerable people in an entire City—it’s a public health challenge,” he said.

Gourdine was the previous health commissioner for Baltimore County. She said that one of the biggest challenges she faced was convincing people that the county’s problems did not stem from Baltimore City. Gourdine also touched upon the disparity in health conditions based on race.

“Health inequities, we know, stem not necessarily from biological and genetic faults which, may surprise you, actually were a part of the literature that came out in the ‘50s and maybe even early ‘60s,” she said.

Health inequity also manifests itself in other ways, such as segregation,

Gourdine explained. For example, Gourdine said that redlining, the practice of denying homeownership to individuals based on their racial or ethnic background, has had lasting effects on access to health, education and wealth for black residents.

“We no longer have redlining. We no longer have ordinances that prohibit integration of communities. But look how segregated we still are,” she said.

Students like sophomore Katherine Fu, enjoyed listening to the commissioners’ views.

“[I] took Dr. Beilenson’s Public Health Primer class freshman fall, and when I heard who the speakers were, like Dr. Leana Wen, I really wanted to come, because these were really important issues,” Fu said. “There was a really good breadth of topics. I learned a lot of new things about what public health involves and why it should be studied.”

Senior Rushabh Doshi, one of the organizers of OMS, said that the organization plans to host a symposium every spring. Last year, Doshi worked to establish the Hippocrates Medical Review (HMR), a student-run publication. HMR won an Idea Lab grant, which provides \$20,000 for winning student projects, and Doshi said that some of those

funds have been allocated to finance OMS events this spring. He is currently in the process of requesting funds for next year.

Doshi said that he was inspired to start OMS after attending other student-run speaker series.

“There is no medical equivalent for MSE or FAS, which is kind of odd given that Johns Hopkins is the mecca of all things medicine,” Doshi said. “We have two wonderful symposiums, FAS and MSE, but I think with the addition of having the Osler Medical Symposium, the school can really bring prominent leaders of the world in every topic.”

In an email to *The News-Letter*, Radha Bhatnagar and Kee Harish, directors of the Hopkins Public Health Student Forum (PHSF), explained that they also seek to bring distinguished speakers to Hopkins. However, while PHSF and OMS may overlap in the speakers they bring to campus, the two still occupy different fields.

“PHSF and OMS take advantage of each other’s presence. We look forward to working with this new student organization to put together great experiences for students on the Homewood Campus,” they wrote.

Diva Parekh contributed reporting.



COURTESY OF THE OSLER MEDICAL SYMPOSIUM

OMS panelists included Dr. Peter Beilenson and Dr. Joshua Sharfstein.

NEWS & FEATURES

Scholar shares tips for better quality sleep



COURTESY OF BRIANNA DANG
Susheel Patil explored the negative consequences of sleep deprivation.

By BRIANNA DANG
For *The News-Letter*

The Center for Health Education & Wellness (CHEW) and Nu Rho Psi, the neuroscience honor society, co-sponsored a talk titled "Sleep 101" on Tuesday. Susheel Patil, clinical director of the Johns Hopkins Sleep Medicine Program, spoke at the talk about common sleep disorders.

Patil discussed the science behind sleep deprivation and gave tips about making the most out of the sleep you get. He opened the talk by emphasizing the relationship between sleep and health with a quote from Elizabethan author Thomas Dekker.

"Sleep is that golden chain that ties health and our bodies together," Patil said.

According to Patil, sleep deprivation is the most pervasive issue among those suffering from sleep disorders. He discussed the detrimental impact that lack of sleep has on physical and mental health.

Patil estimated that 70 million Americans suffer from some form of sleep disorder, a majority of which are chronic. Despite this, Patil stated, those with sleep disorders usually refrain from seeking help from physicians. Patil explained that most physicians lack training about sleep disorders.

Societal stigma is another issue that arises when discussing sleep, according to Patil. He found that people rarely felt comfortable discussing the toll sleep deprivation takes on their health.

"In terms of our society, we tend to equate sleepiness with laziness," Patil said.

He explained that a person who continues to work despite a lack of sleep is often perceived as strong. He strongly disagreed with this perception, stating that people perform better when they get more rest.

According to Patil, sleep deprivation stems not only from a societal devaluation of sleep, but also from an intensive academic environment.

Patil cited *U.S. News & World Report* when discussing the impact that academic rigor has on sleep habits. According to one study, a university's rank correlates with how much its students sleep. Patil stated that the higher a school's ranking is, the later its students go to sleep.

Sophomore Sage Otterson, a member of Nu Rho Psi, found the talk to be highly informative and a great reminder that sleep is an important part of staying healthy. She agreed that it was a societal trend to devalue sleep.

"You'd be like, 'I'm so tired today,' and your friend would be like, 'I only

got four hours,'" Sage Otterson said. "It feels like a competition."

Freshman Clark Otterson agreed with Patil. He attributed the devaluation of sleep to the competitive academic environment on campus.

"Sleep is secondary," Clark Otterson said. "The less you sleep, the more work you can potentially get done."

Patil's talk encouraged Clark Otterson to consciously consider the amount of sleep he got on a daily basis. He found that he rarely thought about his sleep habits, as it was something he seldom gave attention to.

Kylie Patterson was inspired to attend Patil's talk by her lack of sleep the night before. Patterson works as the senior advisor for Local Economic Inclusion. Patil's talk strongly resonated with her.

In his speech, Patil stated that on average, one in five students pull an all-nighter at least once a month. Additionally, at least once a week, one in three college students stay up until 3 a.m.

"I vividly remember doing that," Patterson said. "It really impacted my health."

Patterson was glad to see statistics that resonated strongly with her undergraduate and graduate experience. She felt that despite having finished her college career, she still struggles to prioritize her sleep.

Julia Greenspan, the health education specialist at CHEW, found Patil's information extremely relevant to students. According to Greenspan, data gathered from the National College Health Assessment (NCHA) made it evident that most students struggled with their sleep habits. The relevance of sleep deprivation at Hopkins inspired Greenspan to reach out to Patil.

Through inviting Patil to speak on campus, Greenspan stated that CHEW hopes to break down the stigmas surrounding mental health. She said that CHEW focuses on talking about mental health issues, such as depression and anxiety, as well as other issues that most students at Hopkins face, such as sleep deprivation.

"The most important thing is that we are starting to have conversations around [mental health]," Greenspan said.

By inviting Patil to speak, Greenspan wanted to provide students with the building blocks necessary to improve their sleep habits. She felt that students on campus often have too much on their plate to fit sleep into their busy schedules.

Greenspan hopes CHEW will be able to provide resources and address issues, like sleep deprivation, that affect students on campus.

Author discusses self-love and body positivity

By KELECHI NWANKWOALA
For *The News-Letter*

Sonya Renee Taylor, a poet, spoken word artist and author, spoke at Red Emma's Bookstore Coffeehouse about her book *The Body is Not an Apology*. Taylor is also the founder and executive of a digital media and education company with the same name.

The company's mission is to spread radical self-love and body empowerment as the foundational tool for social justice and global transformation. Its website produces articles and educational tools that reach over one million people each month in over 140 countries. Both Taylor's book and her company focus on her philosophy of radical self-love, which she explained to the audience.

"The intention of this work is to be practical," she said. "My real desire is for you not to read this as some lofty academic theoretical piece."

Taylor conceptualizes radical self-love as a philosophy and value system. In her book she not only explains those value systems, but also tries to give the reader concrete ways of

embodying them.

The event was held in a question and answer format. Taylor read portions of her work, expanded and gave commentary, and opened the floor up for audience members' questions in between the readings.

"I want to be in conversation with you all about the ideas in this book," she said. "None of my questions are rhetorical today."

Taylor opened the discussion with a poem about her mother, titled "My Mother's Belly." The poem is dedicated to Taylor's mother, who she said taught her the power of radical self-love by example. The poem affirms the beauty of recognizing the body and its origins. "I came from this," it declares.

The first half of the book is dedicated to defining what radical self-love means, beginning by telling the reader what it is not. Radical self-love, Taylor explained, is not just self-esteem or self-confidence. She then contended that radical self-love is not just self-acceptance.

"We accept the things we cannot change," she said. "We practice self-acceptance when we have grown tired of self-hatred but can't conceive of any-

thing beyond a paltry tolerance of ourselves."

Taylor used the metaphor of an acorn to illustrate the intrinsic quality of self-love. She explained that self-love is not about becoming something but rather about accessing a potential that has always been there, the same way an acorn always has the potential to become a great tree.

Taylor examined the idea of how people can be more in tune with the impulse for self-love even when society actively discourages it. "There is money and resources and power tied to you not being allowed to be the fullest expression of yourself," she said.

Taylor said that since people and companies profit off of mass insecurity, there is a vested interest in warping people's relationship with their bodies. She said that there are a lot of ways to receive feedback about what is considered good and normal in society. These messages can come in the form of bill-

boards, song lyrics and media messages. Taylor's term for social messaging that destroys body positivity is "body terrorism."

Taylor asked the crowd how many people have had similar moments of body shame. Most members of the audience raised their hands. Taylor defines a child shame moment as the point when a person's shame about their body starts. She believes that every person has a child shame moment and that all such moments have unifying characteristics.

Taylor's book states that all shame about one's body stems from society. She pointed to the fact

that many people have felt that this illustrates how pervasive these systems of "body terrorism" are. Taylor said that the ubiquity and subtlety of this messaging is what makes it so dangerous.

"Babies don't hate their thighs," she said. "There was a point when this society told you something was wrong with you."

"We practice self-acceptance when we have grown tired of self-hatred."

— SONYA RENEE TAYLOR, AUTHOR

How do students find and finance their internships?

By MEAGAN PEOPLES
Voices Editor

This month, many Hopkins students will be applying for summer internships, both paid and unpaid. *The News-Letter* sat down with three students who reflected on their experiences finding and funding internships.

Junior Amy Chi worked last summer as an intern for Diamond Security Incorporated, a security services business. While she was not a salaried employee, Chi received a stipend. Though the work she was doing did not exactly match with her field of interest, Chi said that she had a good experience.

"I got to know the engineers in the company, and they were all super helpful and willing to answer my questions and taught me about their everyday life and what their responsibilities were," Chi said.

Junior Emily Tatum, an International Studies and sociology double major, spent last fall interning at the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) at the recommendation of a past coworker. Tatum recommended finding internships through this sort of networking.

"I feel like if you enjoy your internship and it's a good experience and there are other people recommending other programs, it's probably going to be up your alley as well," she said.

Tatum lived and worked in Washington, D.C. as a student participating in the Aitchison Public Service Fellowship. She had a job at a coffee shop in D.C. in addition to her UNHCR internship and stated that working while undertaking an unpaid internship was beneficial for her. Balancing these two responsibilities, she said, made her realize that she was truly determined to pursue her career goals.

"If you are going to take on an unpaid internship and

you know you are going to work part time, you actually have to enjoy that internship enough and you have to want it enough," she said.

While Tatum enjoyed her internship experience, she also said that it was difficult to work for a total of 33 hours a week, while also taking classes. She believes that unpaid internships perpetuate class inequality.

"Let's say you get an offer in California and you don't have friends or family to stay with there, and if you don't have the money there's no way you can do it," she said. "Whereas maybe someone who is from a higher socioeconomic class, who is your peer, would be able to do it. Then they hire that person instead and all of a sudden that person has a great internship on their resume and then has better post-college prospects."

Isabella Alther, a junior classics major, shared these sentiments and acknowledged that her own socioeconomic status allowed her to take on an unpaid internship. Two summers ago, Alther interned for the Museum of the City of New York.

"I do come from a place of privilege where I could do those internships, so even though I wanted to work at the same time I didn't necessarily have to do that," she said.

She also reflected on the lack of racial diversity in her past internship.

When asked about resources targeted towards helping those of lower socioeconomic status, Assistant Director of Internship Programs for the Career Center Ciara Flowers spoke about both Federal Work Study as well as the Second Decade Society Grant.

"The Second Decade Society summer internship program awards students \$3,000 to \$5,000 based on their need. So if students have a financial aid package they will provide them with



FILE PHOTO
The Career Center aims to provide resources and grants for internships.

\$5,000 for their internship. For other students it will be about \$3,000," Flowers said.

The Second Decade Society receives a certain budgeted amount and will fund as many students as possible. This past year they funded 19 students but have historically been able to fund as many as 50.

Federal Work Study is a program which allows students receiving federal aid to pursue part-time employment while enrolled in university. Through this program, between 70 to 100 percent of a student's salary can be paid using federal money. This would allow a non-profit or other organization, which ordinarily only offers unpaid internships, the ability to pay student interns a salary.

Alayna Hayes, interim director of employee relations and market development for the Career Center, also offered some advice for students working unpaid internships.

"Some advice for those students is to also think about having the conversation with that particular employer about what can they negotiate for. It might be worthwhile to ask for, maybe they can't pay a salary because that's too much for the whole summer but maybe they can provide a travel stipend," Hayes said.

Tatum tried to use the Career Center to find grants to fund a past internship but did not have a satisfying experience. She went on to argue that there are

more grant opportunities for STEM or research fields than are available for those working in non-profit or public sector fields.

"I'd say that most of the Hopkins grant money is made directly for research. And obviously research is important, but off the top of my head I could probably list seven different grants I could apply to if I was planning on doing research this summer, and there was only two to three grants that I am able to apply to for this internship," Tatum said.

Hayes however argues that in fact, there is more money available for those working in non-STEM fields.

"A lot of the funds are for 'humanities' majors. They are not necessarily geared towards STEM," she said. "The STEM industry, it just generally pays more."

Alther on the other hand, praised the Career Center for the change in how they approached the humanities in recent years, specifically citing the arts and non-profit career weeks.

"They are really growing how they approach students in the humanities a lot better. Even since we've been here in just the last two years," she said.

Hayes echoed this sentiment.

"We are working hard because we've heard [humanities students say] that they haven't been getting support," she said. "So we're making events available for them, but I think that they still don't realize that yet."

NEWS & FEATURES

The Baltimore Beat shut down after four months



FILE PHOTO

The Baltimore Beat only published 16 issues before stopping production.

By **ALYSSA WOODEN**
News & Features Editor

The *Baltimore Beat*, a free, local alternative weekly newspaper, announced in a tweet on Tuesday that it would be shutting down effective immediately. The *Beat*, which was founded in November after the *Baltimore City Paper* closed down, only printed 16 issues.

The tweet stated that the *Beat* was “grateful for this opportunity” and regrets that it is unable to continue publishing.

The *Beat* was owned by Brown Naff Pitts (BNP) Omnimedia, a D.C.-based publication company. The company also owns the *Washington Blade*, a newspaper covering LGBTQ issues.

In its tweet, the *Beat* cited a lack of advertising funds as a reason for the shutdown. In a statement to the *Baltimore Sun*, BNP Omnimedia co-owner Kevin Naff blamed the closure partially on Baltimore’s high crime rate.

Naff said that increasing crime and its negative portrayal in the media had caused small businesses to suffer, leading many to cut their marketing budget.

The *City Paper*, which previously served as Baltimore’s alt-weekly publication, also cited declining ad revenue when it closed. The *City Paper* ran for 40 years after it was founded in 1977 by Hopkins graduates.

According to its website, the *Beat* sought to serve as a forum for debate over issues such as government, activism, arts and entertainment. They aimed to set themselves apart from mainstream media by featuring diverse perspectives and publishing more in-depth news stories.

The *Beat*’s Editor-in-Chief Lisa Snowden-McCray formerly wrote for the *City Paper* and the *Sun*. Brandon Soderberg, managing editor of the *Beat*, was previously editor-in-chief of the *City Paper*. Many other former *City Paper* staff worked for the *Beat*.

“[The paper] did great work in a short time with very limited resources,” Snowden-McCray tweeted.

In another tweet, Soderberg called the closing “terrible stupid news” and expressed frustration with the publisher for ending the publication so soon.

“I was not interested in doing a paper for a few months for kicks,” he tweeted. “I wanted to change the media landscape here.”

Many on social media expressed disappointment and sadness with the paper’s sudden closing.

According to Snowden-

McCray, the *Beat*’s website will remain live. Both she and Soderberg look forward to what they will do next.

Soderberg plans to continue working with the Baltimore Institute for Nonprofit Journalism, an organization he co-founded that funds journalists and partners with independent media outlets.

SGA weighs in on protest guidelines

By **KATY WILNER**
Staff Writer

At their weekly meeting on Tuesday, the Student Government Association (SGA) discussed the University’s revised protest guidelines.

The revised guidelines, which were released on Jan. 29, incorporated student feedback after an earlier version was deemed too restrictive. However, the guidelines are still perceived as obstructive to student activism on campus.

SGA members also talked about improving gender equity for faculty and staff, including mothers having means to gain tenure and access to affordable childcare. Members also discussed funding a banner for Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School (Stoneman Douglas) at Parkland, Fla. to show support for its students in light of the fatal shooting there on Feb. 14.

Moses Davis, associate dean of diversity and inclusion, attended the SGA meeting to receive feedback on the guidelines.

Senior Class Senator Joshua Bertalotto believes the guidelines give the University too much authority.

“My main problem with the guidelines that are listed is that it leaves so much leeway for the administration and the University to say what is and what isn’t a right protest,” Bertalotto said.

He said that the guidelines may pose a threat to students’ right to demonstrate.

“The idea of there being guidelines on something that we’re saying is free expression is really problematic,” Bertalotto said.

The guidelines say that students “should” reserve spaces where they wish to have the protest ahead of time. Students complained that the only people who have the ability to reserve spaces on campus are members of student organizations.

In order for students to reserve spaces on campus, they must submit a request 10 business days in advance for their request to be processed.

Senior Class President

HOPKINS CLUB, FROM A1

to other faculty members.” According to Leslie, the Club offered a way for faculty to discuss amongst themselves innovations in their respective fields.

“They would talk about a topic and there would be people from various academic departments: sciences, humanities, social sciences,” Leslie said. “There would often be tables for particular departments, so everybody from political science or from another discipline might meet for lunch on a regular basis.”

As a result, Leslie explained, the Club was recognized as an intellectual pillar of Hopkins and fostered open dialogue between faculty members. The Hopkins Club often saw discussion about changing ideas over the years.

“There was an interesting demonstration in front of the Club back in the 1950s,” Leslie said. “Bayard Rustin, a civil rights activ-

ist, was brought to campus. There was actually a cross burning and pickets in front of the Club to protest bringing this guy to campus. In that sense, occasionally it would serve as a lightning rod for campus debate.”

While many today are unaware of the Club’s history, it nonetheless functions as a space for guest speakers to share their ideas with members of the community.

Cem Baraz, the Club’s General Manager since 1997, can recall a list of famous guests who visited the Club during his tenure, from directors like Spike Lee to world leaders like former Russian President Boris Yeltsin.

“The culture of the Club is what makes the Club live,” Baraz said. “We have to continue that culture for the new generation of club members and alumni.”

To Baraz, who has been a part of the Hopkins community for nearly 42 years, the Hopkins Club feels like

a second home.

“It has amazing value and importance,” Baraz said. “When you remember someone from when they were much younger, you see them finish college, and then they come back here when they’re in town to visit us — it’s priceless.”

Tradition holds great importance to many club members. Hopkins Club President Dr. Richard Scholz remembers a custom from his childhood where he would wave to his parents from a window overlooking the dining room — a custom continued today by many Club members’ own children.

“There’s definitely an intense emotional involvement to the Club for

people who have been here a long time,” Scholz said. “There’s a sense of wanting to keep it going and prospering. It’s volunteer work; it’s not something we do for employment.”

Though the staff feels impassioned about keeping the Club alive, Scholz contends that its intellectual authority in the University has wavered.

“There used to be heavy involvement of the Club with the University,” Scholz said. “That has declined, in recent years, I think, for many reasons, a lot of which are the way people do things today: not eating lunch like they used to and communicating much more easily by text and email.”

Still, as previous Club President Mark Winter added, the Hopkins Club is searching for new ways to attract members.

“We’re trying to get more into things like encouraging departments to have staff meetings or lectures here,” Winter said. “We have a lot of facilities that could be very helpful for them, so were trying to get more involvement with those who are perhaps not aware we have the capabilities for them.”

The need for new members is a growing priority for the Club. With an average membership age of 64, many are now worried that without younger faculty and alumni members, the Club will fade into obscurity.

Professor of Political Science Matthew Crenson, who is also a member of the Club, shares this concern.

“When San Martin Drive was closed and access to the Club was difficult, the place just emptied out,” Crenson said. “But people are coming back.

The dining room is filling up at lunchtime. They’re making it. Things are tight, but they’ve managed to survive.”

To him and many other long-time members, there is a duty to keep the Hopkins Club alive. The benefits and sense of community it provides, according to Crenson, are something difficult to obtain in a fast-paced, technological society.

“You could talk to people in fields distantly related to your own and learn things you wouldn’t have found out otherwise,” Crenson said. “It’s a way I get to see my friends on the faculty I wouldn’t get to see otherwise. It’s important for social rea-

sons.”

Staff members like sophomore Katie Wick echo Crenson’s belief in the Club’s value. “Everyone there is really friendly,” Wick said. “When they find out you’re a student, they want to know about your life on campus. I’ve had 30 minute conversations with customers. A lot of them give you really interesting perspectives on what you want to do with your major.”

Shauna Rosenau, a freshman employee, believes that young people have a lot to benefit from the Club. “I feel like if we did more buffets and happy hours for students, more people would come,” Rosenau said. “There’s not really many people there other than older people who know about it.”

She added that better marketing campaigns could potentially attract more clientele. “We just kind of have the Club out there, and we send out a newsletter and that’s it,” Rosenau stated. “We need to broadcast it more. We need to put stuff on bulletin boards and stuff like that.”

Others, such as Leslie, hope that the Club can one day return to its status as a beacon of thought and intellectual commentary.

“In the old days, different disciplines mixed a lot,” Leslie said. “I’d like to see that returned: an intellectual engagement beyond what you’re working on at the moment. We stress, as a University, interdisciplinary and cross-divisional collaboration, but even on our own campus, we hang out in our offices and work as hard as we ever did, but we don’t know each other as well as we used to. That’s a loss.”



COURTESY OF GOOGLE MAPS

Hopkins Club members include faculty, staff, students and alumni.

NEWS & FEATURES

Conference reflects on racial inequality in U.S.



COURTESY OF JACOB TOOK
Harris and Kriegel were joined by Palmieri and Koskinen from Berkeley.

By JACOB TOOK
News & Features Editor

The Hopkins 21st Century Cities Initiative partnered with the Haas Institute for a Fair and Inclusive Society at the University of California, Berkeley (Berkeley) to host a conference titled “Race and Inequality in America: The Kerner Commission at 50” on Feb. 28 and March 1.

The Conference sought to engage attendees in reflections on ongoing racial inequality in the U.S. Speakers visited either the Hopkins site at the Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History and Culture in Baltimore or a site hosted by Berkeley in California and spoke via livestream.

President Lyndon B. Johnson created the Kerner Commission in 1967 in response to protests both peaceful and violent that broke out in Detroit and other cities across the country that summer. He charged the Commission with investigating the cause of the riots and suggesting solutions to prevent them from occurring again.

Just over 50 years ago, on February 29, 1968 the Commission released a report which famously warned that America was “moving towards two societies, one black, one white — separate and unequal.” It attributed this disparity to a lack of economic opportunity in black urban neighborhoods resulting from white racism.

University President Ronald J. Daniels gave the opening remarks of the Conference. He said that it was important for the University to promote conversations about racial inequality given its position in Baltimore.

“We, along with many of our peers in higher education, need to continue to ask hard, unsettling questions of ourselves,” he said. “Contemporary statistics that map Baltimore’s treatment of the African American community continue to paint a damning picture when life expectancy in our city’s most affluent areas remains almost 15 years higher than in our most disadvantaged neighborhoods.”

According to Daniels, the Baltimore Uprising in 2015 mirrored protests in the City from April 6 to 14 of 1968. On April 12, 2015 Freddie Gray was arrested by Baltimore Police Department (BPD) officers. He later died in police custody from a spinal injury after the officers ignored his repeated requests for medical attention.

Daniels said that it was important to promote these conversations so that in another 50 years, people will be able to reflect on the steps taken to build a more just society, rather than the current lack of progress.

That lack of progress in the 50 years since the Kerner report was addressed by the first panel of the Conference, titled “History, Origins, and Legacy of the Kerner Commission.”

This panel comprised: Senator Fred Harris, the last surviving member of the Commission; Victor Palmieri, the deputy executive director of the Commission staff; and Jay Kriegel, who served as assistant to New York Mayor John Lindsay, the vice chairman of the Commission. John Koskinen, Lindsay’s former aide, moderated the discussion.

Harris, an Oklahoma senator at the time of the Commission, introduced a bill in the Senate to create the Commission. Ultimately, President Johnson created the Commission by executive order and appointed Harris as a member.

Fred Harris described the work of the Commission, which included exploring the black neighborhoods of 23 cities across the country and meeting with over 130 leaders such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. or then-FBI Director J. Edgar Hoover.

He said that these meetings and their findings in cities led them to conclude that lack of economic opportunity in the highly segregated black neighborhoods contributed to racial inequality.

“What white Americans have never fully understood but what the negro — as we said in those days — can never forget is that white society is deeply implicated in the ghetto. White institutions created it, white institutions maintain it and white society condones it,” he said.

Frustrated by the current increase in unemployment due to automation and with what he called conservative political change, Harris said that progress has been slowed and, in some cases, reversed.

He said that while some improvement occurred during the Clinton and Obama administrations, the recent rise of President Donald Trump reflected a downward turn.

“Regression has been the trend since the mid-1970s,” he said. “There is still far too much excessive force by police, too often deadly force, especially against African Americans.”

Victor Palmieri said that the Commission, which comprised six Democrats and five Republicans, bridged partisan divides to produce a report that “shook the country.”

“We had people like Fred Harris and John Lindsay representing one side of the argument and on the other some very strong conservatives,” he said. “The commissioners as a whole are also heroes for the way they got together — if only that lesson could be learned in Congress.”

Harris said that he took heart in remembering that civil rights activists began during the Jim Crow era and faced “rigid segregation and harshest racism.” He added that recent polls show that “the majority of Americans” support measures to address racial inequality.

“The odds were overwhelmingly against them, but still they courageously resisted and persisted, and finally prevailed,” he said. “We can take heart from the fact that we live in a time of unprecedented growing and powerful people’s activism.”

Jay Kriegel elaborated on Lindsay’s leadership, saying that he and Harris struck a graceful balance because of their moral compass.

He said that a desire to save America’s cities united members of the Commission behind Lindsay and Harris.

“[Lindsay] had a deep, profound belief that cities were the center of civilization,” Kriegel said. “If we allowed our cities to fail, the country would not thrive. Dealing with the problem of race, dealing with the ghettos, dealing with an underclass was essential to saving and reviving the cities, and cities were essential to the future of the country.”

At another panel, Bloomberg Distinguished Professor Dr. Lisa Cooper moderated a discussion regarding public health in cities, focusing on how it relates to black neighborhoods and other marginalized communities.

The panel featured Baltimore City Commissioner of Health Dr. Leana Wen, Center for Disease Control epidemiologist Robert Hahn and Associate Professor of Epidemiology at the Berkeley School of Public Health Mahasin Mujahid.

Dr. Lisa Cooper said that the field of public health has grown significantly in the last 50 years and increased knowledge about health disparities and inequalities in cities. She said that while the Kerner report didn’t have a section to address public health, it touched on the same issues.

Robert Hahn said that public health is a “canary in the mines of society.”

“When a canary falls over, we have a sign that something is wrong in society. I see the trends in mortality and life expectancy as indicators of social problems that have not been addressed,” he said. “The remaining inequities that we see in health status are a consequence of remaining institutional racism that we have failed to get rid of.”

Mahasin Mujahid added that, at the time of its publication, many argued that the healthcare inequalities identified in the Kerner report were a result of people in black neighborhoods “behaving badly.”

She said that she has worked to gather empirical evidence showing the adverse effects of living in impoverished areas of cities.

“There was very little empirical work that was documenting... these environments. We know poverty is bad. That hasn’t been motivation in the past for us to do something about it,” she said. “Having limited access to healthy foods is associated with poor diet quality, higher levels of obesity.”

Leana Wen agreed that environmental factors can impact overall quality of life.

“How are children sup-

posed to learn if they have abdominal pain from not eating? How are we supposed to have a workforce if there is untreated mental illness and drug addiction?” she said. “How can we talk about public safety without also addressing poverty and homelessness and other issues that tie to this?”

She said that in the wake of the Uprising in 2015, she focused on getting lifesaving medical care to people whose pharmacies had been looted or destroyed.

“I knew this one patient who said that by the time that she called, she couldn’t see and was nearly unconscious, and she could barely speak, and she said that she was out of her insulin and thought that the best way to keep herself from dying was to stop eating as well,” Wen said.

Junior Rachel Long attended several of the panels at the Conference. She said

that she enjoyed a panel on Black Lives Matter and policing because it brought some black voices into the Conference. She said this contrasted with the panel featuring Fred Harris and the other affiliates of the Commission, all white men.

She added that she found the way Harris and his fellow panelists discussed the current presidential administration interesting.

“They kept having little jabs at [the Trump administration] and talking about how they’re not doing anything and they’re not doing their jobs,” she said. “It gave me hope that there are people out there having these discussions and doing this research and trying to make this change.”

She said the history made it important for Hopkins to promote conversations about racial inequality and that the Conference gave her hope in the midst of a divided climate.

“I was inspired by what they were talking about and how small-scale changes do make a difference,” she said. “It just reaffirmed for me: Don’t be discouraged in your ability to make change and to get involved with government.”

Hopkins releases update on Roadmap to Diversity

ROADMAP, FROM A1
faculty is not a major achievement.

“Things are basically the same,” Alston said. “They have new hiring practices to get [URM] people here, but one of the things we talked about when the Roadmap first came out is what are we going to do to keep them here. It’s simple to get someone to the door.”

The BSU has previously expressed dissatisfaction with the Roadmap. In May 2016, they published a six-page critique of an earlier version of the Roadmap, which was then updated in November 2016 in response to student feedback.

“The Roadmap was a way of them silencing us,” Alston said. “It wasn’t everything we were asking for at all.”

He maintained that the current Roadmap does not effectively address BSU’s 2015 demands, and said that at best it only addresses two to three of these demands.

“When I say ‘addressed,’ I’m saying they touched on that demand, not 100 percent fulfilled what we requested,” Alston said.

He elaborated that the University has failed to make the Center for African Studies a department. Alston noted that the report mentioned new faculty in the Center, but it fails to address the proportion of new faculty for the Center who are URM.

“That was one of the biggest things we were really dissatisfied with,” he said. “That was a very clear, simple demand we wanted.”

He also lamented the continued lack of black professors in STEM fields.

“The majority of our black students are STEM, and they don’t have professors that look like them,” Alston said. “URM are pressured by their families to pursue rigorous STEM careers because that’s the most lucrative field there is out there... there is a black professor in History, but all of the black students who are premed are not going to see her.”

The report also highlights the addition of new diversity and inclusion faculty, notably Fenimore Fisher, the University’s first vice provost for diversity and inclusion and chief diversity officer (CDO).

Fisher joined the Hopkins community on Oct. 23 and has had 20 years

of experience working on diversity and inclusion initiatives. As CDO he is responsible for overseeing the Roadmap and has been communicating with members of student groups like BSU and the Student Government Association (SGA).

Alston believes that diversity and inclusion faculty are an indispensable addition to the community.

“When you look at how student life was run here at Hopkins, especially when I started here as a freshman, we were not on the same level as our peers,” Alston said. “We needed these positions. We needed specific offices devoted to diversity and leadership.”

He emphasized that new faculty members like Fisher should not be expected to single-handedly improve diversity and inclusion on campus.

“If they don’t have the resources and the means to do their job, what you’re going to see is that students are going to be angry at them, versus at the whole system,” Alston said.

In addition to new faculty, the report also provides statistics showing an increase in URM undergraduate students. In Fall 2017, 27.2 percent of the undergraduate population identified as URM, compared to 23 percent in 2016. Since 2010, the proportion of the student body identifying as African American has risen from 6.2 percent to 10.9 percent.

The progress report also lists various exhibitions and talks that aimed to foster a more inclusive culture at Hopkins. For example, Hopkins recently began holding JHU Forums on Race in America. The report also highlights the University’s efforts at strengthening its relationship with the City, such as the HopkinsLocal economic inclusion program, as well as BLocal, a citywide coalition of businesses in the Baltimore area.

Alston said that the BSU is continuing to hold the University accountable and holding meetings with officials to assess their progress.

“We are not giving up on pushing our demands,” he said. “The BSU is not going to forget our political action in fall 2015... We sure as hell are not going to forget what they promised in the Roadmap.”

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NEWS & FEATURES

Foreign Affairs Symposium speaker draws protests

SYMPOSIUM, FROM A1

She criticized the way the protest was executed.

"This is a place where you can express dissent, but that's not the appropriate way to go about it, and it's not the appropriate time to do it in," Hintz said.

Given the nature of the event, she was not surprised by the protest.

"We knew that this could be an event in which there could be potential disruptions," she said. "It's about an exchange of views; it's about giving people the time to speak."

Başbuğ called the protest an act of terrorism.

"What he did is 100 percent a terrorist action," he said.

The talk then continued, despite the fact that about three-fourths of the audience had left during the first protest.

Hintz noted that the U.S. has previously supported the People's Protection Units (YPG), a predominantly Kurdish militia group in Syria known for fighting against ISIS. This has caused some tensions in U.S. relations with Turkey.

Başbuğ addressed this and explained that he views YPG as a terrorist organization.

"Any organization that uses terror as a means to get its objectives is a terrorist organization in principle," he said. "It doesn't make any difference what their object is."

Three more protesters rose out of their seats and were escorted outside by members of campus security. FAS and European Horizons decided to end the event and evacuate audience members from the building due to security concerns.

Flint Arthur, one of the protesters and a member of Friends of Rojava in America, a Baltimore-based, pro-Kurdish organization, explained after the event that he attended to protest the Turkish government's attacks on Kurdish people.

"We're out here protesting that Hopkins is providing a panel for this general that's been responsible for so much Kurdish death. And he is still justifying the attacks on Afrin," he said.

According to Arthur, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, president of Turkey, has limited free speech and fought Kurds in order to increase his chances at winning the 2019 elections.

"Erdoğan restarted the war with Kurds and destroyed the city of Caesarea and launched the campaign on Afrin to bolster his po-

litical position for the elections. They shut down any attempt at speech within Turkey. They just shut down the Women's March in Turkey. They shut down Kurdish newspapers, television stations," he said. "Any dissent against the Turkish state... is regarded as terrorism."

Arthur also believes that the recent arrest of the Turkish regional director of human rights organization Amnesty International demonstrates Turkey's suppression of free speech.

"They arrested the director of Amnesty International in Turkey. The director of Amnesty International is in jail in Turkey because everyone who disagrees with Turkey's nationalist, genocidal, hegemonic process is a 'terrorist,'" he said.

Arthur also said that the talk did not offer an equal opportunity for dissenting opinions and that the question and answer session would not have been sufficient.

"If they wanted to have a discussion, then they would have invited more than just one person."

"If they wanted to have a discussion, then they would have invited more than just one person."

— FLINT ARTHUR, PROTESTER

person to talk a Turkish nationalist position. They didn't have a discussion. They provided him a platform uncontested to say whatever he wants," Arthur said.

Seyid Riza Dersimi, who is Kurdish, also protested the event because of Başbuğ's support of the bombing of the city of Afrin, in which many Kurdish civilians died. Dersimi criticized Hopkins for inviting Başbuğ to speak at FAS.

"Shame on Johns Hopkins bringing this fascist general," he said. "He kills babies every day, every single day, and this is shameful, Johns Hopkins. They are killing innocent people, they are bombing every day."

Dersimi also defended his choice to protest, saying that it was a peaceful demonstration.

"I'm very peaceful, I am not attacking no one," he said. "This is my right. First amendment."



DAVID SAVELIEV/PHOTOGRAPHY STAFF

Several audience members interrupted the talk and were escorted out of the auditorium.

In an email to *The News-Letter*, the executive directors of FAS and the executive board of European Horizons addressed the incident in a joint statement.

"While we respect the freedom of expression of every individual who attends our events, the way in which the protesters expressed themselves caused distress to audience members," they wrote. "We made it clear that they would have an opportunity to voice their opinions during the Q&A segment of our event. However, when it became clear that an orderly discussion could no longer take place, we, along with the campus security on site, had the audience mem-

bers leave the building due to security concerns."

FAS and European Horizons acknowledged the role of today's political climate in expressions of dissent.

"The Foreign Affairs Symposium and European Horizons are non-politically affiliated groups. The views held by our speakers do not necessarily reflect those of our organization, our moderators or our staff members," they wrote. "With this in mind, we encourage diverse viewpoints at our events. We allot time at each event for a public question and answer session during which attendees may personally address our speakers."

FAS and European Horizons also addressed concerns of audience safety at future events.

"Foreign Affairs Symposium and European Horizons takes the security of attendees very seriously and will take necessary precautions at our future events to ensure that all those present feel safe," they wrote.

Senior Omer Kama attended the talk because he

is Turkish and was interested in hearing Başbuğ speak.

"It was really exciting to come and see him, but [the protesters] didn't let him speak, unfortunately," he said.

Kama believed that the protests were disruptive to the event.

"You couldn't hear anything [Başbuğ] said," Kama said, "They should have protested by asking questions. This is America, this is supposed to be a civilized country. Why are they just interrupting the speech instead of asking what, in their minds, would be hard questions?"

Junior Stavros Atlamazoglou attended the talk because he is a member of European Horizons. He was disappointed that the talk ended early.

"He didn't really talk that much. I would love to get his perspective on a wide variety of issues, but unfortunately we didn't get the chance," he said.

He believes that the protests were counterproductive.

"It's an inefficient way to express your views, because you lose your voice by doing it," he said.

Atlamazoglou went on to say that the protest resulted in confusion at the event.

"Other than knowing that they were protesting the Afrin operation, we didn't know the reason why they were protesting, so it would have made more sense for them to just come up during the discussion section and point out particular issues in a peaceful manner," he said.

Freshman Sofia Ruiz is also a member of European Horizons. She appreciated the protests because they offered her insight into the different views of audience members.

"I'm a big fan of protests," she said. "I just wish we could've had the Q&A session as well."

Eriza Stephen, a student at the College of William and Mary, also attended the talk. Like Ruiz, she wished she had been able to hear more of Başbuğ's opinions.

"It really would've been interesting to hear more about General Başbuğ's views on what terrorism is," she said.

Stephen addressed the effects of the protests on the event and was also disappointed that there was no question and answer session.

"Protests are great. It would've been better if they happened outside instead of in the middle of the presentation," she said, "I was a little disappointed that there was no question and answer period."

David Saveliev contributed reporting.

Endangered Data Week calls for open access

By DRAKE FOREMAN
For *The News-Letter*

Endangered Data Week, a collaborative effort across campuses, nonprofits, libraries and other institutions to raise awareness for datasets that are in danger of being deleted, repressed, mishandled or lost, took place last week from Feb. 26 to March 1.

As a part of the effort, seven staff members working under the Sheridan Libraries hosted an event on March 1 to teach students about the importance of improving public access to data and finding the mechanisms to preserve it.

This event was one of several held during the week. In the morning, staff members hosted guest speakers from Open Baltimore to talk about the initiatives they were undertaking to make data about the city of Baltimore more openly available.

Mara Blake, data services manager at Hopkins, said that she was at a different institution before last August and that this is the first year they are hosting events for Endangered Data Week at Hopkins.

The team responsible for making the event possible is from the data services and archives units of the Sheridan Library. They have been working with various researchers who want data.

Therefore, the team has been involved in efforts to help preserve data so that access can continue for research and teaching uses on campus. Members noted that, especially in an academic research setting, access to data is crucial.

Blake noted that many team members are involved in data rescue outside of Endangered Data Week.

"We are part of a broader effort to rescue or preserve government produced data, particularly federal data as well," she said.

Blake believes that data rescuing should not just be limited to various institutions, organizations or specialists, but can be done by students and other individuals without expertise.

At the event, she hoped to give students the practical tools needed to identify available data and to also preserve data somewhere sustainable so that access can continue.

The event started off with a presentation on the underlying concepts behind endangered data. Reid Boehm, data management consultant at Hopkins, explained the various ways data can be important, aside from research, in allowing people to do the work they need to do or to simply live their lives.

For example, some may need to use government data to navigate through flood plains. If they did not have access to data, it would limit their ability to travel.

Other examples Boehm mentioned where data is important included professions in agriculture, business and health.

Those involved in agriculture may need data on weather patterns to make decisions on what to do with their crops. Businesses may need data on market prices and trends to

make informed decisions.

For public health, it may be important for people who have medical issues to have access to health information. In these ways, many have specific reasons why data might be important to them.

Boehm explained that all of such data can be threatened in two key ways: government shutdowns and lack of funding.

"You probably remember a couple weeks ago when the government shut down for a couple of days. This is the sort of thing that happens periodically. A lot of times when you go to websites during that time, you see these notifications that there's suspension of these services or that you are unable to or have limited access," they said.

Boehm stated that there are a lot of things going on behind the scenes to preserve data and that when there is not enough funding or when the government shuts down, it can sometimes lead to a lapse or degradation of data.

"If you don't have the right amount of funding or have the right personae, the files may not be maintained during a shutdown. There may or may not be additions to the system, so there might be a collapse, a lag or a scheduling backup for preservation activities," they said.

Following the presentation was an interactive session where the staff demonstrated how to use DataLumos, an archive for valuable government data resources. DataLumos is used to safekeep and disseminate U.S. government and other social science data. The staff gave a step-by-step introduction into how to use DataLumos to store data.

According to Geospatial Services Librarian Bonni Wittstadt, one of the most important things that makes DataLumos reliable is its organization system of data. Users have to take three key steps when storing data. The first is searching through the database to verify that the data the user is about to input is not already part of DataLumos.

"You wouldn't want everybody to be depositing and saving the same data, since we would then have thousands of copies of the same data," Wittstadt said.

The second step is uploading the data. Finally, the third step involves describing the data. The user does this by creating a metadata, which is essentially a description of the data that includes the title, data producer, summary of the data and the URL. This will make the data findable in the future.

Blake stated that the key focus of Endangered Data Week is about making sure that access to as much open data is possible for the public. Her team is motivated to get more people to become involved in helping preserve data through using tools such as DataLumos.

"It's exciting now that there are so many tools that make it accessible for lots of people to participate without a lot of background knowledge and skill," she said.

Errata: Feb. 15 & March 1 Editions

In the Feb. 15, 2018 edition of *The News-Letter*, in the article, "Local artist's work addresses slavery and racism," the original version of the article stated that Paul Rucker was a 2015 Guggenheim fellow. He was actually a 2017 Guggenheim fellow.

In the March 1, 2018 edition of *The News-Letter*, in the article, "SGA considers new election guidelines among other legislative measures," Aran Chang's name was originally misspelled in this article. Additionally, *The News-Letter* misidentified his gender pronouns.

The News-Letter regrets these errors.

University proposes a private police force to patrol Baltimore campuses



FILE PHOTO
Many students are wary of possible consequences of the police force.

POLICE, FROM A1
as black students, the minorities, safer on this campus.”

Sophomore Taylor Richter said that he rarely hears of incidents of racial profiling at other universities and is wary of taking too radical of a stance.

“I do understand that there’s certain stigmas with police, and oftentimes certain socioeconomic groups feel disenfranchised by the police and that other people don’t,” he said. “The fact is most universities in the country have their own university police force, and it’s not something you hear about negatively.”

In her statement, Ridge wrote that the University would seek feedback from the Hopkins community and its neighbors to guide the planning process.

“We expect that all members of our Johns Hopkins and neighborhood communities would be treated fairly and respectfully at all times. Our goal is to build a model university police department that reflects contemporary best practices,” she wrote. “This includes upholding the core values of our institution, including strong commitments to freedom of expression, community engagement, equity, inclusion, transparency and accountability.”

Emeline Armitage and Mira Wattal, the co-presidents of Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), shared several of the group’s concerns with the proposal, which include racial profiling, an uptick in police violence against students, and increasing the division between the University and the Baltimore community.

SDS released a petition to the formation of a private police force on Tuesday morning detailing many of their concerns, which at press time had almost 1,600 signatures. Almost 1,000 of those signatures were Hopkins students. Over 200 alumni and 200 community members signed the petition, and the remaining signatures comprised of faculty, staff, parents and students at other universities.

Wattal said the murder of Tyrone West in 2013 was an example of violence from a university police officer. West was a black Baltimore resident who was killed after officers saw a bulge of suspected drugs in his sock and attacked him as he attempted to escape.

She said that she is worried these incidents would occur at Hopkins. Wattal said that recently, two students of color were arrested and detained at Loyola University Chicago.

“These police officers arrested them because they didn’t have their ID, but that’s not a reason to arrest a student,” Wattal said. “It

just shows the concern that comes with over-policing at college campuses.”

Loyola University Chicago is among many institutions throughout the country with a private police force. Most public universities currently have their own force, as do private institutions like the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Chicago.

Ridge also wrote that, should the bill pass and authorize Hopkins to proceed, they will seek input from community members and then work with BPD to hire and train officers for the Hopkins department.

Armitage added that she was surprised that Hopkins would work closely with the BPD.

“[They are] probably the most corrupt police department in the country,” she said.

She added that they have recently come under scrutiny for corruption and substandard policing practices.

Armitage also said that a private police force would be a logical continuation of the relationship between the University and Baltimore, which she called exploitative and racist. She said that it would also increase gentrification around Hopkins campuses.

“This fits very well into Baltimore and Maryland as a whole trying to whitewash the city, make it more palatable for investors — for Under Armour, for Amazon,” Armitage said.

She added that robberies committed by non-affiliates make up only part of crime on campus.

“The vast majority of violence is student-on-student, mostly sexual assault and rape,” she said. “The problem is that those sexual assaults and rapes aren’t reported nearly as much as robberies and muggings, so we have a completely skewed view of what crime looks like on campus.”

Some other students feel as though the creation of a private police force would increase safety on and around Hopkins campuses. Richter said that he used to get an alert about an armed robbery almost every day.

He agreed with Armitage that the alleged corruption in the BPD was concerning, referring to recent news about the Gun Trace Task Force, which implicated several police officers for stealing guns and drugs from citizens to resell on the street among other crimes.

However, he sees police corruption as a reason to support the creation of a private force. He said that independence from the BPD will give the University’s security services greater stability.

“Right now, BPD is under intense scrutiny, and there’s a possibility that the entire

department will come crumbling down in some dramatic court case,” he said. “I’m not sure that Hopkins, with all of their acreage in Baltimore, is comfortable going through a police lapse.”

According to Richter, Hopkins could also ease some of the financial burden on the BPD through the creation of a private police force. He said that it was interesting to consider the amount of money the BPD spends on patrolling the neighborhoods around Hopkins campuses.

“That money could be better used by Baltimore for public health and social work,” he said. “Hopkins has the money to spend that Baltimore maybe doesn’t, and it’s not really fair for us to mooch off of Baltimore.”

He added that the University already contracts armed off-duty BPD officers to patrol on and around Hopkins campuses. A private force would simply replace those officers, he said, rather than increase police presence.

He said that while some students may feel disenfranchised by a private police force, he does not think the creation of a private force would pose a huge change.

“A lot of people are acting as if this area has never been under police jurisdiction and now it will be,” he said. “Would you rather be under Baltimore police or Hopkins police? I would rather be under Hopkins police because I feel like I would have more say in those policies.”

Junior Harrison Folk agreed that a private police force would increase the safety of students and community members.

In an email to *The News-Letter*, Folk wrote that he was less concerned about the areas on campus and more worried about the neighboring areas.

“I have seen a rise in crime in my third year here as opposed to the first two years. However, since the University has placed on foot Hop Cops in the neighborhoods near campus, this crime has been reduced significantly,” he wrote. “Where more officers are needed is in the neighborhoods where the students live — specifically on St. Paul, Calvert and Guilford streets.”

He added that armed officers would make him feel safer during active shooter situations and wrote that he thinks the University decided to pursue this decision in the wake of recent discourse about mass shootings.

According to Folk, the University should not have informed students before the legislation entered the Maryland House of Representatives.

“Now that the bill is introduced and there is a significant shot at it getting passed, the University wants to be as transparent as possible,” he wrote. “Also, maybe the University hopes that some students could get involved and let their voices be heard so the bill can get passed.”

Sophomore Alyssa Thomas said that the University has not given students enough time to provide thorough input. She said that Hopkins should have sent out a survey on the state of public safety on campuses.

Though Daniels wrote

in his email that students would be involved in the creation of a private police department, Thomas said that it was not fair because it already assumed that the creation would be underway.

“I guess I’m a little bit skeptical,” she said. “From the inception of this idea, or it having even any weight, it should have been disseminated to the public.”

She added that the University could use the resources that would fund a private police force to fund other initiatives that would combat high stress and anxiety for students.

“Some of those monetary resources should be allocated towards mental health efforts or somehow moving forward to creating more of a student union — something that will decrease existing levels of anxiety and depression and just general stress,” she said. “Right now what they’re doing is increasing it, especially for people of color or queer folks.”

Thomas, like Armitage, worries that current crime reports disproportionately reflect crimes by black male non-affiliates, rather than crimes like sexual assault that occur on campus. She added that this makes students of color feel unsafe.

According to Thomas,

the creation of a private police force would also deepen distrust between the University and the community, as community members would feel that the creation of a police force implies that non-affiliates are perpetrators of crime.

“Non-Hopkins affiliates who live around here would feel that they are being put in a box,” she said.

Senior Preston Wessells agreed with Thomas that the University should have made the announcement earlier on.

“We could have had a brainstorming session with the administration before they clearly lobbied to have this bill created,” he said. “I’m sure there’s still a lot of planning to be done, so I’m sure eventually, if they do it correctly, they will get student input, but it would have been nice to know earlier.”

He did, however, agree with Richter’s argument that a private police force would simply replace existing patrols from the BPD, rather than heighten a police presence.

“BPD already patrols the area with guns, so having a dedicated police force that has a mandate to protect students and the community around here could be beneficial,” he said. “It’s not like it’s unheard of to see someone with a gun around here.”

According to Wessells, the current security officers are ineffective in policing the areas around campus. He said that his friend was mugged last semester and saw a security officer drive past while the mugging was in process.

Wessells said that while the officer might have influenced the situation had they stopped, they often do not have the power to enforce safety measures.

“There are so many armed robberies in the neighborhood that having a patrolling force that isn’t armed — what are they supposed to do if they stumble upon a guy with a gun?” he said. “How are they supposed to stop someone who’s more heavily armed than [themselves]?”

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

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*To enter the raffle, you will need to enter a valid email address. Email addresses entered will not be connected to survey responses.

Hopkins is a diverse university, where an incredible mix of cultures, academic interests and personalities coexist and thrive...

It's all Greek to me: My thoughts on sororities



Amelia Isaacs
From Across the Pond

As I sit on the floor of my room looking around for some inspiration about what to write about this week, I'm realizing that I've somehow managed to miss what is literally right in front of me, all around me and on me — not seeing the woods for the trees and all that, I guess.

No, that wasn't the clue to some sort of frustratingly simple riddle — this week is **"secret week"**. My room has been completely covered in presents from my wonderful big. There are t-shirts and handmade canvases and a massive flag on my wall (don't worry AMR II RAs, it's not a fire hazard) and balloons and baked goods from my gbig (aka my big's big), and the amount of time and love that has gone into all of this is incredible.

I actually don't want to move anything because it looks so pretty, which is why I am currently sitting on the floor of my room and not on my t-shirt covered bed or my balloon covered desk.

For anyone who doesn't know what secret week is, it's basically one week where all the "littles" in a sorority (aka new members) are showered with love and affection (aka t-shirts, food and serenades) from their "bigs." This all leads up to "reveal" at the end of the week i.e. when the littles find out who their bigs are (hence the name "secret week" — it all kind of makes sense right?).

Anyway, while that might all seem obvious to most (if not all) Americans reading this, the idea of secret week, bigs, littles and even sororities in general is an entirely foreign one for anyone that's well... foreign. I can't speak for every country (I haven't done my research), but at least for me, as a Brit, my knowledge of sororities before coming to Hopkins was limited to whatever I had seen in American movies.

I tried my best to not form assumptions about what sororities were like, but I can't pretend that when I told my friends I was definitely going to university in America, one of their first questions wasn't "God, you're not going to join a sorority are you?" or that my reply wasn't "Do I really seem like someone that would join a sorority to you?"

I'm not writing about this because I want to convince anyone to join a sorority or to change anyone's minds about what they think about them. But when explaining to my friends, or attempting to explain to my friends, what happens during secret week, I realized that it makes absolutely no sense.

Just from my obligatory Snapchat story yesterday (day one of secret week) I have already had so many messages from my friends back home. The messages range from, "What the hell

is Hotterthanachili Mylittlemilly??" (The Facebook page my big made for me) to "Are they hazing your bedroom?" to "Wow you're so American now."

Ironically, the friend who sent me that last message actually has dual citizenship and is American... but clearly as someone who is now in a sorority, I am the most American of the two of us — maybe I was actually given American citizenship as well as a bunch of t-shirts on my bed yesterday...?

The point I'm trying to make is that Greek life in general is a very American concept. The closest thing we have to it in the UK are probably sports clubs or a few boys' clubs and secret societies at Cambridge (*The Riot Club* would be our equivalent to *Animal House* I guess...) which are not really the same thing at all. Apparently (according to Google) there are a few frats in London and Scotland, but I doubt they are anything like our idea of frats.

When trying to explain to my friends what I've been doing with my sorority so far or even just what's been happening for secret week, none of it makes any sense to them. And, when you think about it, there's not really any way to explain why a group of boys sang to you outside of the library after class or why your room is covered in t-shirts and balloons and cakes.

But that doesn't mean that I'm enjoying this week, or my sorority, any less because of it — they're all probably just jealous anyway. I can't wait to do all of this for my little next year.

How my body image has affected my identity



Gillian Lechuk & Jacob Took
The Gay Agenda

Growing up, we face a lot of social pressure about the way we look. Spending hours staring in the mirror, agonizing over every little detail of our appearances is a trope of the modern middle schooler, but in reality that struggle continues far into adulthood.

For some queer people (like Jacob), those social pressures are only amplified. But for me, being a woman interested in other women has offered me a sort of solace from the patriarchal expectations imposed on women's bodies.

When I was a kid, I went to the same summer camp for six years starting in fourth grade. Around seventh, the girls in my cabin started paying more attention to what they wore. They'd stand in front of the bathroom mirrors and complain about their acne and their weight because their jeans were a little too tight, and the boys in Cabin Four might notice.

I never felt like I fit in with all the girls trying to impress the boys at camp. And now I know the main reason for that was because I don't like boys, but when I was 12 I thought it was because I didn't look like the other girls. I weighed

more than the other girls, and I didn't feel comfortable in a lot of the types of clothes they wore.

I thought boys wouldn't like me because I didn't look like other girls or dress like other girls. But I think that's fairly universal for 12-year-old girls. We are conditioned by society to need to feel pretty and desired, to seek approval from men and boys. I hope every girl and woman can escape that pressure. For me, coming out as queer helped me realize I don't need to impress anybody but myself.

I think there's always going to be a desire to impress the person you're interested in. We're always going to want to feel beautiful. But I feel safer with other women. I don't feel like I need to conform to an unrealistic beauty standard because my partner will have experienced the same pressures.

This is definitely an oversimplification — unfortunately I can't blame everyone's body issues on men. And women who date women might feel an added pressure to look a certain way to match the body type of her partner.

But I've always felt safer and more comfortable in my own skin with women. Because I don't care if someone I date wears double zero jeans or has curves in all the "right" places. I would never expect someone to look a certain way for me, and I guess I have

more faith in women than in men to return that favor.

In this context, as in many contexts, I agree with Gillian — women are better than men. Unfortunately I'm a man who, for whatever reason, is attracted to other men.

Gillian and I have both dealt with social expectations about the way our bodies look, but I reconciled with those expectations differently. They certainly came to impact my queerness differently.

Back in those middle school days, I was super self-conscious about my weight. I was a chubby child, and was teased for it regularly, but my anxiety about my body far surpassed the bullying. Every time I went clothes shopping, every time I ate something in public, every time I saw the hot models on packs of underwear, it reminded me how much I hated the way I looked.

My struggle with my body image peaked in freshman year of high school. I was beginning to realize that I was gay, and I was gaining weight at an alarming rate. That summer, I weighed the same as I do now but was almost a foot shorter.

Losing weight during my sophomore year gave me the confidence to embrace my sexuality because it let me feel better about myself. At the time, losing weight was something I needed, because it absolved a lot of the stress about my body that I had wrangled with for years.

But now, looking back, I wish that I had been more comfortable with myself. I wish that I could have had the confidence to express myself. I wish that the expression of my sexuality wasn't contingent on conforming to social pressures about image.

Everyone struggles with anxiety about their image to some extent, but in my experience those anxieties are heightened for gay men because there are unreasonably high standards of body image in the gay community. I would love to blame that on The Straights, but the reality is that most of those standards are self-imposed.

For a lot of gay men, the expectations about body image stem from a history scarred by the AIDS epidemic. Physical weakness and emaciation were seen as telltale signs of AIDS, so gay men in the 1980s bulked up as a way to show that they didn't have the disease. It was also seen as a way to be more manly to compensate for doing... things that were perceived as unmanly.

If you want to look muscular because it makes you feel manly, or because you want to be able to pick up your significant other in an ambitious dance move or because you like the thought of beating up your enemies, that's great.

But you do not have to be fit to be sexy. You can rock a crop top with a thick belly. You don't have to look any type of way to find a place in the queer community. If other people in that community enforce negative expectations about the way your body should look, that's their problem.

Some interesting facts on the upcoming International Women's Day



Ariella Shua
Internet Expeditions

This Thursday, I'm sure that many of you will be getting ready for the weekend as usual. But many of you will also likely be getting ready for a different type of day — International Women's Day. Several groups across campus and Baltimore have been preparing to commemorate the event. But I'll be honest, I've never heard of International Women's Day before.

Yet it sounds like an annual event that nearly everyone can get behind. Curious, I decided to find out exactly what this day is about, and now I'm just surprised that I'd never come across it before.

Here are the questions — and answers, helpfully provided by the internet — that I found more pressing than the questions my professors had assigned this week:

What is International Women's Day?

According to the official website, International Women's

Day is meant to celebrate the various achievements of women across the world in cultural, political and social matters. It is also supposed to promote and increase awareness of the need for gender equality. It has been celebrated worldwide for over 100 years.

The day is seen as a combination of celebration and advocacy. In most places, it is not just a day for women to celebrate, but it is a time to highlight the accomplishments of women in particular. How the day is observed depends on each country's specific needs and goals for women; there is no one blueprint for the day.

Why was International Women's Day started?

Fifteen thousand women marched through New York City in 1908, demanding better wages and working hours for their jobs, as well as voting rights. The next year, the Socialist Party of America introduced the first National Women's Day, under the leadership of Theresa Malkiel and Aira Salazar. In 1910, the day was commemorated once again.

Meanwhile, another Socialist organization, the International Socialist Women's Conference, had held its first meeting a few years before. At the second meeting, in Copenhagen in 1910, Clara Zetkin of Germany

suggested that there be an international day for women, held at the same time throughout multiple countries, that would strongly promote women's suffrage.

The women representing 17 countries at the Conference agreed, and more countries began to celebrate the day with each passing year. In 1913, the date of the commemoration was set to be on March 8 internationally and has been celebrated on this date ever since.

Though International Women's Day began with a focus mainly on women's suffrage and the right to be elected to office, as the times have changed, so have the goals of each year's celebration. The United Nations began officially celebrating the day in 1975. Since 1996, they have instituted a different theme for each year.

The UN theme for 2018 is "Time is Now: Rural and urban activists transforming women's lives." The International Women's Day website lists a separate campaign theme. Under the title "#PressforProgress," there is a primary focus on more justice-seeking movements like #MeToo and #TimesUp.

Has International Women's Day caused any actual change?

Yes and not just for women. In 1917, a demonstration was held in the

Russian capital, then called Petrograd. Because it was International Women's Day, the majority of those present were women.

The day began peacefully enough, with posters declaring that the demonstrators were patriotic but wanted many Russian policies (not just concerning women) to be changed.

However, in the afternoon, female textile workers joined the crowds and began chanting for "bread and peace." Their forceful energy spread, and male workers began joining as well. The atmosphere became one of outright hostility to the status quo, and the crowd began chanting against the Czar.

By the end of the day, over 100,000 Russian workers were on strike. The Czar wound up abdicating four days later. Of the many factors that led up to the Rus-

sian Revolution, the actions of the women who were commemorating International Women's Day played an important role.

How is International Women's Day celebrated now?

Over 100 countries recognize the day in some way, with over 25 having made the day an official holiday. In some countries, such as Chile and Croatia, the day has morphed into a more lighthearted women's appreciation day, with men giving women gifts. In others, such as Romania, the day is similar to Mother's Day.

Several countries have even declared International Women's Day a holiday for women only. Of all celebrations worldwide for this important day, these are the ones that I would be fascinated to see taking place.



MOLLY ADAMS/CC BY 2.0

International Women's Day has roots in the march for suffrage in 1908.

VOICES

Here is the section where you can publish your unique thoughts, ideas and perspectives on life at Hopkins and beyond.

The Hopkins culture of collaborative suffering



Carmen Schafer
In My Humble Opinion

What are you looking forward to most in college?"

For any of who expected to party a lot, find your soul mate, achieve academic success or join a fraternity in good standing with the University: I'm sorry for the loss of your high school hopes and dreams.

I get it, though, because when I was in high school and people asked me what I was most looking forward to in college, I answered, "Having access to a 24-hour library."

Hear me out.

I am both physically and mentally incapable of getting work done in a room that contains furniture suitable for sleeping. Given that I took a nap in the Gilman Atrium last week, as well as Garland Hall on Monday morning, I fully acknowledge the argument that anywhere is a bed if you try hard enough. That being said, I think we can all agree that some environments are more conducive to sleeping than others.

This unfortunate reality, combined with the fact that despite not being a STEM major I am in fact an individual with responsibilities, frequently forces me to venture outside the comfort and safety of my bedroom.

In high school, Starbucks was my go-to locale — an oasis of productivity that facilitated the creation of some of my best and only work second semester of senior year. However, despite a need for caffeine that I would prefer to recall as a torrid love affair and not a problematic addiction, my relationship with Starbucks was confronted every night with our one irreconcilable difference: No matter how many hours of work I had ahead of me, Starbucks insisted on closing every night at 9 p.m.

Brody, the University's pseudo student union and signature study space, was supposed to be my promised land. At last, my potential would not be thwarted by closing time. The lack of caffeine past midnight was a non-issue, because I found the (fleeting) strength to get caffeine-clean the summer before college.

However, upon arriving on campus, my naïve college dreams were mocked to death by reality: Though Brody is formally referred to as an environment designed for collaborative learning, I quickly became disillusioned by its culture of collaborative suffering, a

culture that is not isolated to Brody or even to Hopkins, but is certainly concentrated there.

If you don't vocalize how stressed you are, is it even possible for you to be stressed? And even if you do frequently vocalize your stress, is it even possible that you could be more stressed than I am? (Read: no.)

If you don't incessantly complain about how much work you have, would you still have work? Would deadlines still exist? Would your exams still take place?

If you don't regularly compare your enormous workload to that of less rigorous majors, can your course of study really be considered difficult? Is the future value of your degree directly correlated to how much it inflated your ego during undergrad?

If you don't verbally question why you chose Hopkins at least once every three days, will your education amount to anything?

If you're not miserable, are you even trying?

Don't get me wrong: The culture of collaborative suffering that exists on this campus is a culture to which I have shamelessly contributed. As a general rule, I'm not opposed to complaining. I love complaining. In fact, I love complaining so much that I've been allocated a biweekly column dedicated to it. But even though I recognize that complaining can be therapeutic, I also suspect that a widespread culture of collaborative suffering does far more harm than good.

Misery loves company. At Hopkins, misery is head over heels in love with company, and by breeding together they have trapped our student body in an echo chamber of incessant, vocalized suffering. Even if you avoid Brody, all of your negative feelings are guaranteed to be reinforced elsewhere.

Though I was born and raised a devout pessimist, our student culture doesn't exactly encourage converting to optimism. And while it's been easy to blame Hopkins for my misery, it would be hypocritical of me to not also acknowledge that I have myself to blame. After all, complaining is self-reinforcing, and by vocalizing my woes, I have only made them and myself more insufferable.

At Hopkins, lacrosse may be D-I, but students have turned suffering into an Olympic sport. So this year for Lent, regardless of whether you subscribe to Catholicism, I encourage you to quit. Next time you feel the urge to reaffirm your perennial misery, maybe try to communicate a less self-defeating sentiment instead, for once in your college career.

You may be surprised at how tolerable Hopkins can be when you're not constantly telling yourself otherwise.

Misery loves company. At Hopkins, misery is head over heels in love with company.

My answer to the age old question: cats or dogs?



Alizay Jalisi
Self Care Stuffs

Spoiler alert: I can't choose. I love them both for different reasons. But I didn't always start out this way.

I would say I was born a dog lover. Dogs come in all shapes and sizes. They are generally friendly, outgoing and loyal to a fault. They make all kinds of noises, ranging from "rao rao" to "rrrrruffff, rrrrrrufffff" and more. But when I was four, my life changed forever.

On a crisp fall morning, I stepped out of my apartment complex to go for a walk with my mom when I met the meanest dog ever.

She was a loud chihuahua with a raspy, growling bark, and she almost bit me when I reached down to pet her. And her human didn't even try to hold her back from biting me, which was rude. For years afterward, I was scared to pet a dog again.

In high school, I volunteered at the Baltimore Humane Society, where I



COURTESY OF GREGORY KONAR

learned a lot about taking care of cats, rabbits, birds, mice and *gulp* dogs. I also overcame any fears I had in the past and really fell in love with the brave and endearing animals I met there. I felt ready to have one of my own. In college, I adopted my forever friend.

Interestingly, my cat and I almost never met. The day that I went to the Baltimore Humane Society looking for my first pet, I met many friends but struggled to find the right one for my household.

Some were too energetic and loud, others too lazy and quiet. I was tired and ready to go home, but then I decided to look again, one last time. I found him.

As I walked past his cage, he gazed back at me with his large, hopeful, green eyes through the glass door. I tapped on the glass, and he got startled. He retreated backwards and looked away. I sighed and moved onto the next cage. But I could feel his eyes on me, and I just had to turn back. I asked a staff



COURTESY OF KATHARINE SHADLOCK

member to help me take him out of his cage to a playroom. As soon as I put him down on the ground, he brushed his tail against me, crawled right into my lap and started purring. It was true lurrrrrrve.

Sheroo (that's Urdu for "little tiger") and I have been inseparable ever since. He's there to lay a paw on my shoulder whenever I cry, to lick my face whenever I come home after a long day, to stay up meowing with me during an all-nighter and to lay in bed with me when getting out of bed is just way too difficult.

Now if I've begun to lose any of you heartless creatures who aren't quite cat fans, just hold on a minute. I guess now that I'm a spring semester senior, I can unabashedly say that my favorite way to spend a depressive episode is to lay in bed and look at cat and dog memes and videos.

Where do I usually find my memes and videos, you might ask? In all the Facebook groups, of course.

Good places to start are



COURTESY OF ALIZAY JALISI

"Cat City" and "Big Hecking Group of Dang Doggos." And if you're in any of those groups already, you know that true aficionados don't just appreciate the floofers, they speak the lingo.

That's right, they can communicate in doggo speak. If you're still with me, here's a quick, illustrated 101 on doggo speak. Regardless of where you fall on the cats vs. dogs debate, I think we can find love, unity and peace through a common language.

Pupper

A smol babbie dog, hasn't yet done a heckin' adult. Usually talks in smol borks, awoos or ruffs.

Doggo

A fully grown dog, still sometimes called pupper because all doggos are really puppers at heart. Usually talks in big bork borks, awooooooos or ruff ruff ruffs.

Floofer

A special term reserved for our especially wooly and furry frens. Could be either pupper or doggo.

Kitter

A smol babbie catto that hasn't yet done a heckin' adult. Usually talks in smol mews.

Catto

A fully grown cat. Usually talks in big mews, meows and MEOWWWWWWWWS. Considers oneself to be royalty; hoowmins are peasants.

Why I don't always enjoy reading classic literature



Bessie Liu
WriteMe

My feelings toward classic works of literature, or more specifically, toward British literature, have never been outstandingly positive.

I never really enjoyed reading *Pride and Prejudice* or *Wuthering Heights* in high school, which wasn't great because we had at least an entire year's worth of English dedicated to British literature.

I found it difficult to be engaged in the writing itself, let alone to feel sympathy for the sheer number of characters in each novel, each with their own significant challenges to keep track of.

What makes a piece of literature "good"? This is a question that I've often wondered about. While people have different answers and preferences for good literature, I think I can narrow my answer down to several general elements: well-written characters, interesting storylines and style of writing, in order of importance to me.

But what makes a good piece of literature a "classic"?

Shakespeare is a staple of many high school English literature curricula (for AP Literature, I think we ended up reading around five of his plays), and it's not that difficult to see why. I've always found the characters to be the best part of stories, and his characters' motivations and frustrations are well thought out and well reasoned.

Moreover, his style of writing is grand and gracefully poetic. He has the ability to convey certain truths about the human experience through his writing, and Macbeth's famous proclamation that life is "a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing" is one of my favorite soliloquies.

Shakespeare is often referenced in other works of literature, but his literary influence extends beyond English and into popular culture — including the selling of Shakespearean insult-themed mugs and calendars. There's no reason why I shouldn't like reading Shakespeare.

Perhaps a part of my discomfort with British literature can be traced back

to my high school classes. We focused a lot on the structure and mechanics of writing an essay but not so much on how to analyze the literature itself and how to come up with fresh ideas on centuries-old texts.

I remember that one of my teachers was often the one to make the connections for us. Granted, there isn't really a set way to teach students how to analyze a piece of literature besides perhaps allowing students to explore the literature through discussion-based class sessions.

But discussions hinge on the participation of your peers. For students who didn't like English, didn't read the assigned text or were not inclined to speak in class, that poses a problem.

Personally, whenever we would have in-class discussions, I would sometimes be afraid of sharing my thoughts on the text out loud, fearing that I would say something wrong.

I just wonder sometimes: If I had read more classic novels outside of class, on my own, without being confined by a curriculum disproportionately favoring British classics, without the threat of an AP test or an in-class essay looming overhead, would I then have found

more joy in the process, even though I would risk missing out on the insights into the literature that my teachers could offer?

I don't mean for this article to be some sort of exposé on the quality of high school English teaching. But my experiences with reading classic literature have been so intertwined with my experiences in my high school English classes that I don't know how much of my apprehension toward reading famous classic novels is actually due to the way the novels were taught to us, and how much of it is due to my own discomfort with the properties of the literature itself.

However, this isn't to say that I don't like classic literature in general or that I don't want to read more classic novels — not just works by Shakespeare but also works by other literary legends that were never touched upon in my high school AP English classes. It's easy to just read books and poems that are in your comfort zone.

And even though books that are objectively "good" might not necessarily be the most enjoyable or fun to read, there's still much to be gained in terms of appreciation for what the authors have been able to create, which has lasted generations.

the johns hopkins NEWS-LETTER

Editorials

We need to address crime, but creating a Hopkins police department is not the solution

This past Monday, with no prior warning, Hopkins students received an email from University President Ronald J. Daniels and CEO of Hopkins Medicine Paul B. Rothman regarding a bill that is being introduced this week in the Maryland General Assembly. The bill “would give private colleges and universities in Baltimore City the authority to work with the Baltimore Police Department (BPD) to create a university police department.”

This University police department would function alongside the pre-existing Hopkins security team, and it would be “developed and implemented through a detailed agreement with the BPD.” The school hopes to still consult faculty, students, staff and community representatives to help develop what they hope will become a “model university police department.”

This email came as a surprise to students, and seems to raise more questions than it answers.

It is unclear whether the the University police would be a branch of the BPD, or if it would be an independent entity that works closely with the BPD. We have several questions about how this force will function.

Who will this private police department be held accountable to — the University or the BPD? How will a privately-run police force interact with the many Baltimore residents who fall under its jurisdiction, who have no direct say over how the University police would be run?

Crime rates have been rising in Baltimore. *The Baltimore Sun* reported that the city had its highest rate of homicides per capita ever in 2017, and Baltimore has seen increases in all types of crime over the past year.

During this time, scandal has marred the BPD’s reputation. A 2016 Department of Justice report detailed how the department has committed systemic civil rights violations. The recent Gun Trace Task Force trials exposed the the deep cancer of corruption at the heart of the BPD. Both of these revelations shed light on a disjointed and fraudulent police force in need of reform.

We understand that a University police department may relieve some of the pressures experienced by the beleaguered BPD. Creating a University department would probably reduce the BPD’s need to patrol around Hopkins campuses and also assuage the fears of those who are concerned about climbing crime rates in Charles Village.

Despite this potential benefit, we hold grave concerns about the implementation of a University police force. President Daniels wrote that this police department would be based on other police departments at peer institutions in cities like Philadelphia and Chicago. We do not think that these departments are models for Hopkins to replicate.

At the University of Chicago, for example, the school police were given all the rights of the Chicago Police Department but were not subject to the Freedom of Information Act. The university police department was not obligated to release any of the records of police interactions. The University of Chicago Police Department has been accused by numerous sources of racially profiling and repeatedly harassing black people around campus.

We are further concerned that many of these officers would be patrolling areas where Baltimore community members live. With the University’s many campuses spread out across Baltimore, would those citizens be subject to the authority of a privately run police force that they have no direct say in or control over? This would further the divide between Hopkins students and Baltimore residents, when the relationship between the University and its City is already filled with tension.

It seems as though the University police department would work alongside the BPD, but we do not know what will prevent the BPD’s ineptitude from spilling over into the University’s proposed department. In an article published by *The Baltimore Sun*, the police academy’s head of legal instruction revealed that a third of graduating recruits “have not demonstrated that

they can meet [basic] constitutional and legal standards.” These are unacceptable standards for the City and for Hopkins.

While it is unclear how many students were consulted about this idea before the bill was created, the University must consult us now. We encourage students to share their thoughts and suggestions in the feedback form Hopkins has created. The University should not be able to make decisions that affect its students without getting a full range of opinions from the students themselves.

This police force may be one short-term solution to local crime, but for lasting and meaningful change, we must address the underlying roots of crime in Baltimore. A history of racist redlining policies, a lack of job opportunities, as well as food deserts and various public health issues are just some of the factors that lead to high crime rates. We understand why the University wants to directly address the uptick in crime, but combating systemic problems would be a more positive and impactful way of doing so.

While Hopkins has done work in some of these areas, more can and should be done to try and solve some of the deep-rooted problems that face our city. The creation of a University police department seems like a short-term plan aimed at satisfying people who will only be here for four years, instead of a comprehensive plan that tends to the long-term issues that surround the Hopkins bubble.

With all this in mind, we believe our concerns outweigh the police force’s potential benefits. The administration’s lack of transparency has been disconcerting. We are skeptical that this transparency will improve considering the school’s past track record in communicating its plans to students. However, this does not mean that we will not continue to demand the right to know what is going on. Until more information becomes available, we do not support the creation of a private University police force.

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The News-Letter

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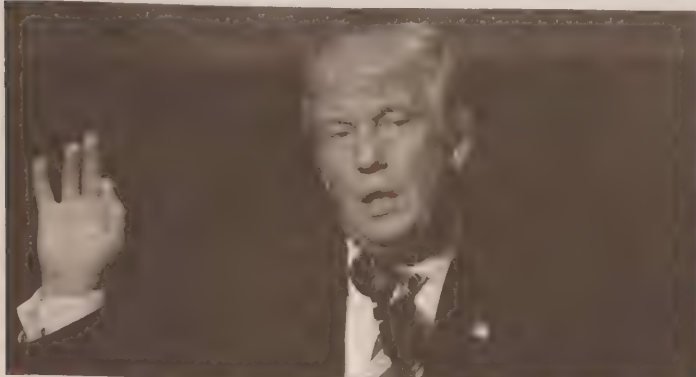
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OPINIONS

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Flip flopping in politics is more dangerous than ever



MICHAEL VADON/CC BY-SA 4.0
Trump changed his stance on gun control quickly, which has implications for all of politics.

By SAMUEL FARRAR

“Flip flopping” is a very charged term in the realm of politics. However, from Reagan’s flip from liberal abortion legislation in California to anti-abortion laws in the White House; to Nixon’s promise to end Vietnam that turned into massive escalation; to Lincoln’s promise to not use federal troops within the borders of the Union (a flip we are all thankful for) — this process of changing agendas is a very normal part of a president’s career.

While it may draw some criticism from the opposing party and cost the president half a percentage point in public opinion, flip-flops are typically minor and inconsequential in the legacy of the presidency. No president has been known historically for their platform change.

That is, until now. These flip-flops usually happen over a long period of time (relative to a president’s term, at least), and while a president’s agenda may shift from one side of the political aisle to the other, they are seldom radical and typically follow national trends.

For example, in his 2008 campaign Obama tentatively rejected the possibility of gay marriage. However, he gradually softened this position, until 2015, when he fully supported and celebrated the Supreme Court decision that legalized gay marriage. This shift reflected the platform shift within the Democratic party.

Last week, Trump flipped in a more extreme manner. In a press conference, he criticized Congress Republicans for “being scared” of the NRA, and he espoused support for stronger gun control measures. He went as far as supporting seizing guns from certain people without due process, saying “take the guns first, go through due process second.”

This comment shocked NRA supporters and gun control enthusiasts alike. However, by the end of the week, Donald Trump’s aides claimed that after a “productive” meeting with the head NRA lobbyist, he no longer supported any of the gun control measures he had just promoted a few days prior.

Politicians across Washington were left dumbfounded. Paul Ryan expressed exacerbation, and Republicans were unsure as to whether to support or denounce the president. Former Representative Timothy Roemer said, “Many people voted for Trump in order to throw a hand grenade into national politics. It seems he has done the same thing to Capitol Hill.”

Extremely far right and pro-Trump reddit community r/The_Donald almost imploded as the heavily censored community banned thousands of accounts that criticized Trump, while it tried to maintain the radical political identity it had created.

Trump is volatile, and this

should concern citizens more than any of the policies measures he has espoused in his short time in office. He is a loose cannon, who can go off at anytime, and no one can predict what he is going to do. His all-of-a-sudden approach to proposing policy leaves many confused as to the impetus of his decisions.

While Trump switches from policy to policy, one thing remains constant: He always takes the policy to a radical extreme, such as switching from arming teachers to taking guns from “dangerous people” without due process.

The speed, radical nature and, most importantly, the complete commitment he gives to these policies can leave lasting marks on America, even if the policy is only a blip on the President’s political map. Take for example, the gun debacle. Taking guns from citizens under the guise of public safety without due process, even under a relatively small and short-lived program that was stopped quickly by Congress and the courts, leaves behind it a precedent that can exempt government policy from regarding basic constitutional rights.

However, by far the most dangerous result of this trend is the effect it will have on the political culture of the nation. We already live in the most polarized time in American history, and Trump’s constant introduction of new radical policies and ideas will only contribute to the polarization. The simple introduction of a radical idea by an influential figure of a society can bring the idea into the realm of relative normality.

As the parties become more and more tied to ideology, one party will latch onto an idea at their ideological extreme, while the other will staunchly refute it, perhaps promoting their own opposite but equally radical principle to combat it. This is the situation that occurred with welfare and social security in the New Deal era of the 1930s.

Now taken for granted, the welfare policy proposed by FDR was very radical at the time. Just as quickly as the president’s party latched on to the policy, the Republicans of the time tried to distance themselves from the radical idea as much as possible. This is partly how the party became the socially *laissez-faire* party we still see today. By constantly introducing new radical ideas like this into the political culture, Trump will serve to push the parties even farther apart.

What comes next, one can only speculate. Is it possible for polarization to reach a critical mass, after which there would be no possibility of reconciliation between the parties? I cannot answer this. We, as a nation, are in unmarked territory right now. The next spur-of-the-moment decision by our president could lead us down a dark path that no one could have predicted.

Samuel Farrar is a freshman from Brevard, N.C. and plans to major in political science. He is The News-Letter’s Social Media Editor.

Hopkins needs to enact mental health reform

By ALIZAY JALISI

On Feb. 22, 2018 the Task Force on Student Mental Health and Well-being released a report outlining the insufficiently met mental health needs of students and strategies to better meet those needs. Three major recommendations called on Hopkins to “promote a climate of awareness,” “to provide greater access to mental health services” and “offer, and in some cases require, training on mental health awareness and resources for faculty, staff, and students.”

The report mentions briefly that certain groups such as students exposed to violence; first-generation college students; students of color, especially black students; and queer students are more predisposed to suffer from mental illness.

Despite this recognition, the Task Force failed to outline specific steps it would take to improve the mental health of students belonging to these groups. With the help of other students from diverse backgrounds, I have drafted the following list of demands that should be part of immediate efforts to prioritize the health and wellness of students of color on campus.

Required trainings for faculty, students and staff

I believe that it should not just be recommended but in fact required that all faculty, staff and students attend annual trainings sponsored by Student Disability Services and the Counseling Center that are grounded in an intersectional focus on how race, gender, sexuality, religion, culture, physical ability and socioeconomic status impact the risk for particular conditions.

These trainings must also clearly address concrete ways to eliminate language that is ableist (like using the words “crazy,” “triggered” and “psycho” in inappropriate contexts) and ways to communicate with and support these students in a culturally-con-

cordant manner if they happen to demonstrate symptoms of anxiety, depression and suicidal thoughts.

Accountability for everyone
I believe that there should be clear language embedded within the Codes of Conduct for students, faculty and staff prohibiting discrimination on the basis of psychological and psychiatric disorders, especially since students of color are more likely to be affected by such discrimination. Discrimination includes, for example, a professor refusing to give a student extra time on assignments despite receiving documentation of the student’s mental illness from a psychiatrist or psychologist.

Furthermore, I believe that an anonymous, centralized reporting system should be established through joint partnership between the Counseling Center, the Task Force on Mental Health and Well-being, Student Disability Services and the Office of Institutional Equity. Through this reporting system, students, faculty and staff can report instances of discrimination and seek justice.

Hiring more faculty and staff of color

White faculty and staff, while capable of being allies, are simply unable to experience the daily instances of racism that we face on and off campus. It is high time that the University hires more faculty and staff of color in all departments to serve as mentors, role models and support systems for students of color at this University. In the Counseling Center, such efforts are already being made, yet the needs of students of color are too high, too deep and too diverse for counselors alone to provide adequate care.

We should not have to resort to expensive, non-affiliated therapists and psychiatrists (who often end up being white). Students of color, especially black and Native American students, should never be feeling so anxious, depressed and isolated to the point at which it is

difficult for them to function, succeed and blossom everyday here.

An on-campus student center
While the work that the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA), the Office of LGBTQ Life and Women and Gender Resources (WGR) do is incredible, they are off campus and not frequented by those who do not identify as minorities. Furthermore, even though student groups, teams and Greek Life provide empowering spaces for students of color, the burden must not be put on them alone to create a more inclusive community across the entire campus. The administration and students need to work together to create an on-campus center, with designated spaces for students of color, which would complement and further the work being done by these student organizations.

As I envision it, a student center would act as a centralized space to host Stressbusters sessions, eat pizza, have arts and crafts workshops and whatever else students like to do to relax and have fun in groups. The student center could also provide readily available, centralized resources in the form of advisors, brochures and workshops for students to maintain their health and wellness.

Such resources could provide information on how to register with Student Disability Services, how to report experiences with sexual assault, lists of services offered by the Counseling Center and more, since many students on campus currently report not being aware of the resources that Hopkins has to offer them. My hope is that through these efforts, a student center would foster a greater sense of community and therefore especially create a healthier atmosphere for students of color.

Jordan Britton ’17, Bhavitha Kotha ’18, Naadiya Hutchinson ’19 and Ifeyinwa Egbunike ’20 contributed to this list.

Alizay Jalisi is a senior Molecular & Cellular Biology and Spanish major from Baltimore, Md.

Why we should care about the Italian elections

By MORGAN OME

This is an election year, and for most American voters the November midterm races for the House and the Senate are of paramount concern. But Americans should also pay close attention to elections happening abroad, particularly those in Italy, because they highlight important global trends which have wide-reaching ramifications.

Italy’s geographic location means that it is often the first destination for refugees fleeing from Africa. And its economy, although struggling, is still the eighth largest in the world and the third largest within the Eurozone. For those reasons alone, it is important to pay attention to the nation’s politics.

On Sunday, a majority of Italians voted for populist, anti-establishment and anti-European Union parties in their national election. In doing so, they rejected the status quo in exchange for the promise of radical change.

About one third of the vote went to Movimento Cinque Stelle, or the Five Star Movement (M5S), an anti-establishment populist party. The center-right coalition, made up of Lega Nord (Northern League), Forza Italia (Go Italy) and Fratelli d’Italia (Brothers of Italy) together gained around 37 percent.

Although what the Italian government will look like in the future is unclear, it’s clear from this election that populists know how to win. When Donald Trump was

elected the 45th President of the United States, many issued a warning that populism was on the rise in America. Now people are saying the same thing about Italy, including Steve Bannon, Trump’s former White House strategist, who was in Italy to support right-wing parties last week.

Populism is a neat catchall word with a vague definition. Populists, therefore, have a unique advantage: They are able to advocate for the needs of “the people” without clearly establishing who those individuals are. They mobilize against an established elite, which includes the wealthy, the educated and those in government, while simultaneously fighting against an “other” group.

In Italy, and in America, this “other” group is typically scapegoated for society’s problems, allowing “the people” to target their resentment towards ethnic minorities, immigrants, the corrupt elite and anyone else deemed an enemy of “the people.”

Many fear that technological advancement, increasingly diverse populations and a global economy will threaten their jobs and their security. They are scared that they will be left behind in this changing society and that they will become the victims of violent terrorists. Populist parties seize those fears and promise to prioritize the true people, by supporting a strong nationalist agenda. They say “Americans first” or “Italians first.”

Populist parties do not create

fear or resentment: They simply feed off of and exacerbate existing feelings. Understanding that populist parties prey on the fears of “the people” but do not propose realistic policies to address those fears, is the key to defeating them.

To combat the current wave of populism, we must commit to fighting prejudice both at home and abroad. We need a strong, watchdog media to hold parties and individuals accountable. In addition, we must fact check and scrutinize false rhetoric that demonizes asylum seekers and migrants, instead of letting these ideals flourish in public discourse.

We need governments and organizations committed to preserving human rights. We need to create a better educated public, one that has the ability to discern and distinguish between candidates and elect those who are capable of ensuring progress for all.

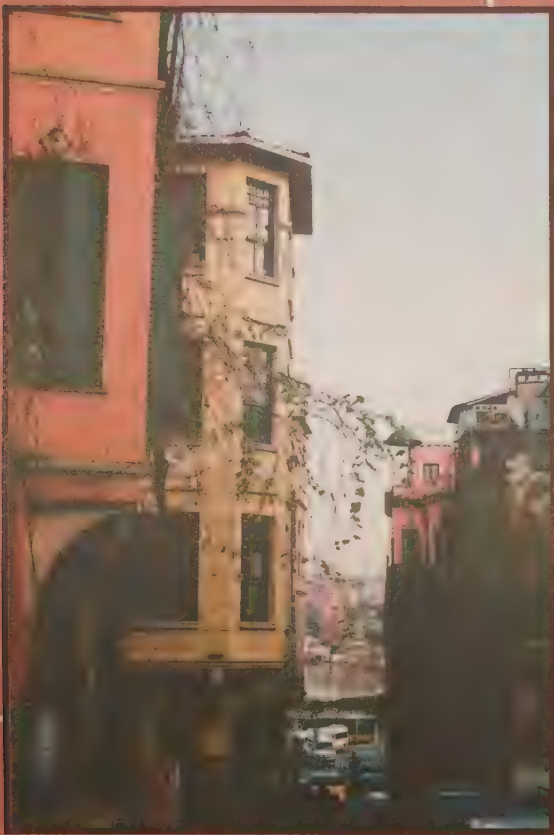
Opposition is effective in elections but does little to address the conditions of voters. Instead, proposing pragmatic solutions and fighting positive campaigns must be the way forward. It is not enough to be against M5S or Lega Nord, against Trump or against populism. We must stand for human rights, democracy and equality everywhere, not just within our own borders.

Morgan Ome is a junior Writing Seminars and Italian double major from Hillsborough, Calif. She is a News & Features Editor.

PHOTO ESSAY

Scenes from Istanbul

By Eda Incekara



THE B SECTION

YOUR WEEKEND • ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT • CARTOONS, ETC. • SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY • SPORTS

MARCH 8, 2018

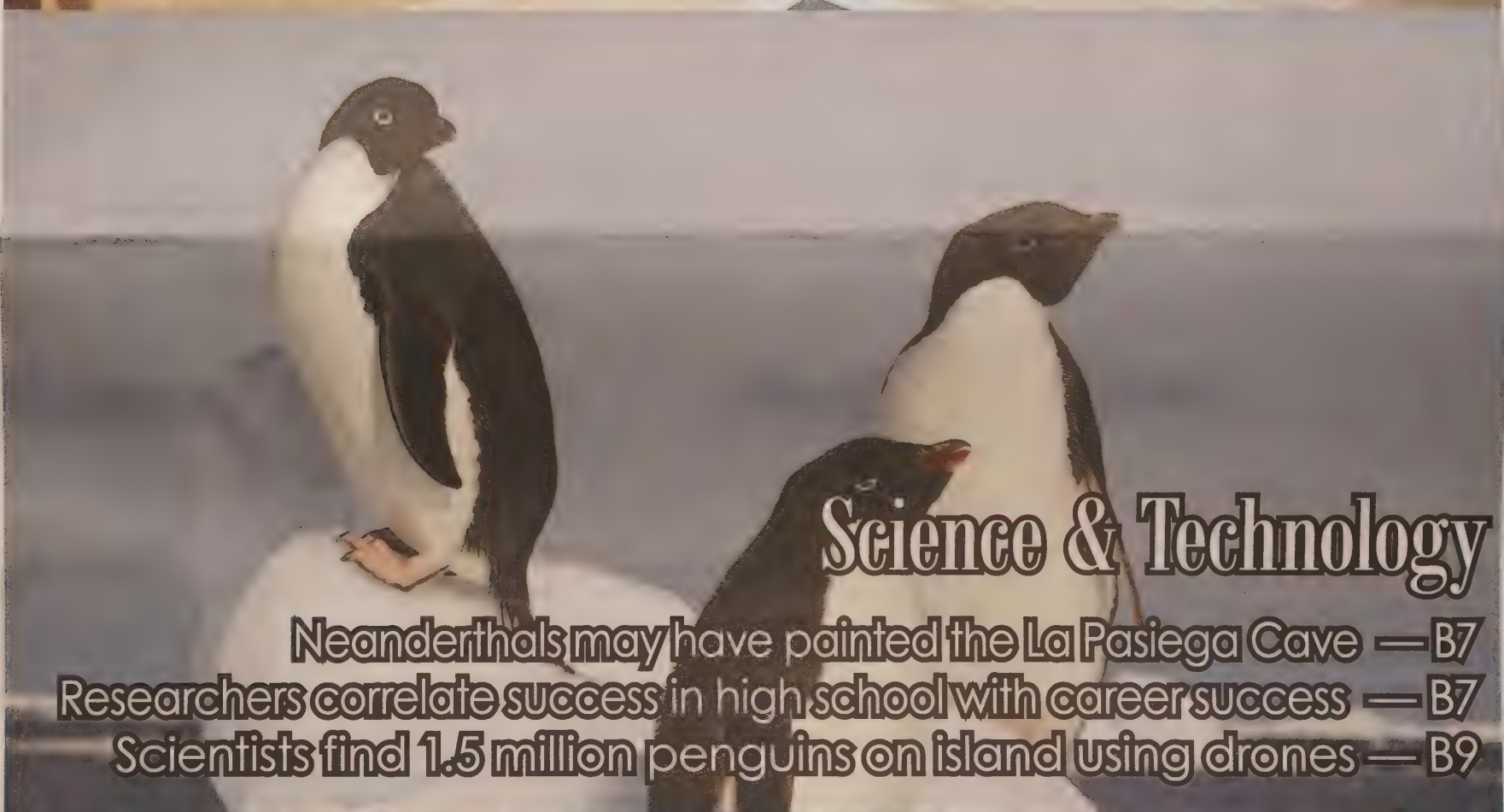


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YOUR WEEKEND MARCH 8 – 11

Events in Baltimore this weekend

Thursday

HUMBUG: The Great P.T. Barnum Seance

The Peale Center

8 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Opening night of a performance/seance focused on circus mogul P.T. Barnum, this event features authentic artifacts from the man's life, including the Fejee Mermaid. \$25.

Friday

The Winter's Tale

Chesapeake Shakespeare Company

8 p.m. – 11 p.m.

The first show of a four-weekend run, check out this classic Shakespearean play on love and second chances — a perfect way to get your spring started. Tickets start at \$16.

Biggie & Burgers

theSANDgallery

9:09 p.m. – 1:09 a.m.

Baltimore's only art gallery that also has a mini hip hop museum inside of it. Explore this "semi-professional" gallery while listening to the music of The Notorious B.I.G. while also eating a variety of burgers. \$20 for a burger and activities.

Saturday

Puppet Slamwich

Black Cherry Puppet Theater

9:30 p.m. – 11 p.m.

Come see puppetry for adults, performed by both local and visiting puppeteers. Be sure to buy your tickets in advance: Their 6:30 p.m. show is already sold out. \$11.50.

The Escape Artist

The Crown

7:30 p.m. – 1 a.m.

The Escape Artist is joined by fellow musical acts Mr. Seaweed, Vorrh and "2 2 1/2 2." Also be sure to check out local vendors offering everything from live painting to tarot reading. \$7.

Sunday

Workout & Whiskey

Sagamore Spirit

10 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Spend your Sunday morning doing pilates in the Sagamore Spirit whiskey processing room. Afterward, sample their signature drink. \$25.

"Indoor camping" provides fun date alternative

By ASTHA BERRY

For The News-Letter

"He's the smartest person I've ever met." "He's very snarky and sarcastic." "He's got a dark sense of humor, pretty pessimistic with his jokes — just a warning. But great guy!"

With the above slew of messages blowing up my phone, I nervously texted the aforementioned boy a couple of "creative" first date ideas.

Making plans for the weekend isn't always easy, especially when you're trying to make a good first impression. Luckily, as I found out, there are plenty of ways that you can have a fun time on your next weekend date, even if things don't exactly go to plan.

As busy Hopkins students, my date and I struggled to solidify plans until the day of (okay, it was an hour before we were supposed to get together.) I called him to figure things out because let's face it, texting is so inefficient. Naturally, I was full of joy when he picked up with the Peter Pan voice.

(I had a thing for Peter, okay? You're lying if you say you didn't.)

He picked me up from McCoy (classy, I know) and we went to Daniela in Hampden, an adorable little family-owned Italian restaurant. Everything was made in-house, including the unexpected surprise we ended up taking home with us.

We had the standard first-date conversations: hometown, pets, favorite serial killers, admittance of vices and crippling insecurities. Things were going well. We both liked memes, so there's that.

Was Daniela's a good option for a first date? It certainly seemed like it at the time.

Afterward, we popped by Charm City Comedy

Project, where we had expected stand-up comedy but were met with something that seemed like a cross between improv and a weird sketch comedy routine that was impossible to follow. There were only two rows of chairs, so we sat on the steps for all of five minutes before we decided to leave.

So a poor option for a first date. Could we salvage the night?

With our previously made plans more or less undone, we brainstormed places to go in Baltimore on a Saturday night that didn't involve drinking.

It was pretty difficult.

Eventually, I suggested we try indoor camping. This basically meant doing camping-like activities from the comfort of a blanket fort inside a house, with heating and no bugs.

Contrary to what his friends' texts had implied, my date was receptive to the idea and even drove down to CVS so we could pick up essential ingredients (mostly various kinds of chocolate).

We went back to his house, which was messy because he hadn't expected anyone over. Of course, we then found our inner children and made it even messier for the sake of building our blanket fort. A great thing about this date option is that you don't have to worry about clutter, though you may want to vacuum your floors first.

We made use of all of the blankets and pillows we could find, using chairs to prop up the makeshift tent. We worked together, and I couldn't help but think that a lot of my dates end up feeling like team-building activities, but it was cute anyway.

Once the fort was up, we turned off all the lights and lit a Yankee candle to serve as our "fake fire." Indoor



COURTESY OF ASTHA BERRY

Make the mess in your living room seem purposeful: Build a blanket fort.

camping would not be complete without s'mores, so we roasted marshmallows over the candle (yes, candles really do get that hot). We used our CVS chocolate and graham crackers to complete the s'mores, as Oh Wonder played softly in the background.

It was all very Pinterest-y in the best possible way. If I were reading it as a scene in a YA novel, I would think it seemed fake, too cute, gross. I was aware that I could be doing this with literally anyone and it would still be the epitome of adorable.

(That means, dear reader, that you can do it too and be just as cute.)

There's something incredibly cozy about sitting in a pile of blankets, with the taste of melty chocolate in your mouth and the warm glow of candles while raindrops hit a large window. If you can get it to rain on your date, I would definitely recommend.

Plus, blanket forts naturally lend themselves to cuddling and talking, which makes them great for dates and also most interactions.

Of course, nothing good can last. He said he felt nauseous and excused himself to go to the bath-

room. After a while, I went to check on him and heard him throwing up. I told him I wanted to help and used my bobby pin to unlock the door (yeah, it's kinda badass, I know).

While throwing up, he informed me it was Staph Aureus, because the incubation period was two to six hours and he matched all the symptoms. His friends were not lying, he was a nerd: He accurately identified the bacteria that had caused his food poisoning.

Maybe I just like taking care of people or maybe I liked him a tiny bit, but I wasn't grossed out by the vomit. In fact, I told him I still thought he was cute, and if you still find someone cute while they puke, that's saying something.

So our cute first date to an Italian restaurant and a comedy show stretched into 22 hours of indoor camping and making sure he didn't die from dehydration or get too cold on the bathroom tiles. But honestly, it was still the best first date I've ever been on.

There are a lot of fun things to do over the weekend in the city. But if you're really trying to get to know someone, sometimes there's nothing wrong with staying in.

Green Mount Cemetery: more than dead bodies!

By RENEE SCAVONE

Your Weekend Editor

As a rule, I try not to encourage general audiences to hang out with a bunch of dead bodies.

However, exceptions must be made.

Initially, I felt bad about recommending the Green Mount Cemetery as a destination for friends to go to when they need to clear their minds and take a breather. However, I've recently found the "Visit" page on their website, so I figure it's fair game.

I first went to Green Mount for a school assignment last year, and I was honestly surprised at how big it was. Some of my favorite things about Baltimore are its little pockets of green, tiny vacations from city life.

Furthermore, it is home to animals that we city dwellers don't usually get to see, including foxes, owls and, though spotted only once, a wild turkey.

While there's another article to be written about the amount of easily ac-

cessible natural spaces in urban environments, when one only considers Green Mount for its most wholesome qualities, the space is certainly a delight.

Of course, there is the matter of the hundreds of tombstones rising out of that beautiful grass — definitely a big part of the aesthetic.

If you want to go in with a flexible sort of plan, you can purchase a map and some other informational materials at the front gate.

I recommend going down "Oliver's Walk," which takes visitors to the highest spot in the cemetery. From there you can look out to the Inner Harbor and see the city's skyline.

If you want the full experience, however, there's really only one way to go about it: a walking tour guided by Wayne Schaumburg.

The Hopkins grad and retired Baltimore City Schools teacher will not only take you to some of Green Mount's most famous graves but can pro-

vide additional historical facts about the cemetery itself.

The next set of Mr. Schaumburg's tours are May 5, 12, 19 and 26.

Of course, if you're more of a choose-your-own-adventure type, you can go rogue without a map or a guide. If so, you should come in knowing whose graves you want to see and where those graves are.

Green Mount uses a very straightforward numbering system for its graves, which can be looked up online. Of course, you have to make sure to check out the final resting place of our very own Johns Hopkins, but my personal favorite grave belongs to John Wilkes Booth.

The assassin is buried under a plain, nameless tombstone, with a bigger marker to assure guests that it isn't just a poorly placed rock. Of course, there's also a very obvious indicator: Visitors have covered the stone in pennies as an homage to President Lincoln.

There's also the cem-

etery's sprawling collection of names we know and sort of love: Latrobe, Walters and Enoch Pratt are just some of Green Mount's most notable "residents."

If you're not into the morbid, make the trip for the architecture at least. The on-grounds chapel is a gothic revival piece designed by John Rudolph Niernsee and James Crawford Neilson and can be visually described as "Evil Disneyland Castle."

There are other buildings, but what more could you ask for?

To get to Green Mount, you can take the JHMI to its Station North stop and head south on St. Paul Street from there. Take a right on Lafayette and then keep walking until you see one of the cemetery's big stone walls. Walk south alongside it until you get to the entrance on Greenmount Avenue and Oliver Street.

Be respectful when you go, but have fun exploring, and tell a bunch of mayors, actors and philanthropists I say hi.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Professor Eric Puchner discusses his latest work

By CHAEBIN JEON
For The News-Letter

On March 1, 2018, Hopkins Writing Seminars Professor Eric Puchner read from his new collection of short stories, *Last Day on Earth*, spoke with host Nate Brown, and answered questions from Brown and the audience. The event was held from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Ivy Bookshop in Bird in Hand.

Puchner debuted with his first short story collection, *Music Through the Floor*, while his second novel *Model Home* was a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award and won a California Book Award Silver Medal for fiction.

Last Day on Earth is his third book and focuses on family and its complications: a depressed woman tasked with taking her niece and nephew trick-or-treating; a teenage boy afraid that his mother may be a robot; a teenage boy who tries to save his estranged father's dogs from going to the shelter; and a reluctant father who brings his baby to a party with coke.

The event began with a preliminary round of questions from Brown, who asked Puchner about the start of his career. Puchner stated that he sent in stories many times by mail, before online submissions were widespread. One story, which he had sent to *The Atlantic*, was rejected by the editor. But it was a good kind of rejection — a handwritten note, which came attached to the regular letter.

"I felt like I made it because I got a handwritten letter," Puchner said.

When asked about whether he wanted to make editorial changes to his previous books, Puchner said that he was "mortified by some sentences." But he also said that he is busy focusing on newer stories.

"Your writing gets better and better with each story that you write," he said.

Talking about one of his stories, "Beautiful Monsters," Puchner said that the story came to him in a dream.

"I saw a group of 35-year-olds who looked like children, seeing a grown-up

for the first time," he said.

Brown noted that Puchner's characters all seem to have the desire to change or improve in some way.

In response, Puchner stated that he was, "preoccupied with the way our bodies betray us with age," and mentioned his dislike of the idea of coming-of-age stories, saying that they were cliché and that people were always changing.

"Life is a series of disillusionment," he said, laughing.

Then Puchner began reading through "Last Day on Earth," a story with the same title as the book. After the reading, Brown began a second round of questions.

When asked about the locality of his stories, Puchner said that the details

"Your writing gets better and better with each story that you write."

— ERIC PUCHNER, WRITING SEMINARS PROFESSOR

of Southern California fascinated him because of its bizarre and surreal nature: the cookie-cutter housing development, Spanish Colonial architecture, mini-malls and desert communities.

When asked if he wrote about places he had never been to, Puchner said, "I don't write about places if I haven't been to them... it's not a moral issue... if you do it, more power to you. I'd just feel like a fraud."

Brown also asked about the endings of Puchner's stories, how characters who don't seem fully resolved still seem to be in a better overall place than before. In response, Puchner asked, "How do you scratch an itch the reader has with irresolution?" He then inferred that one would need to "act a reservation that is a subtle form of a reprieve."

Puchner also said that he sometimes leaves enough at the end of the story so that the reader would know that something would happen after the end that would complicate the situation.

"After all," he said, "that happens a lot in life. Things aren't tied up so neatly."

During the Q&A, Puchner answered a question about how much of oneself one should put in fiction.

"One hundred percent of fiction of autobiographical... writing is about your own emotional experience," he said.

B'more act celebrates the release of album *Riddles*



COURTESY OF WILL SCERBO

Ed Schrader and Music Beat put on a high-energy show at Metro Gallery on March 2.

By WILL SCERBO
For The News-Letter

Ed Schrader has stood the test of time as a local legend in "alternative" Baltimore, from performing with local comedy group Wham City, to hosting a pop-up spaghetti restaurant, to his t-shirt series "Cats On The Lake."

However, a full picture of Schrader would be incomplete without his eponymous band Music Beat, consisting of him and bandmate Devlin Rice.

The pair are known for their short bursts of distorted tom-and-bass post-punk, over which Schrader lets loose all manner of vocal hysterics from Bowie-esque croons to panicked screaming. On their latest record, *Riddles*, the band has expanded their sound.

Co-written and produced with Baltimore's own auteur of symphonic pop mania Dan Deacon, Music Beat's palette on *Riddles* has widened drastically compared to their

relatively sparse records *Jazz Mind* and *Party Jail*. Deacon's trademark player piano and vocal manipulation appear throughout *Riddles*, deepening Schrader and Rice's sound to new levels. This new style is akin to the maximalism of '80s synth-pop but not without Schrader's mantra-like vocal lines.

On March 2, Schrader and Rice tore up a sold-out show at the Metro Gallery with supporting act Wume to celebrate *Riddles'* release, kicking off their spring tour with a bang.

The opening act was the Baltimore band Wume, the dynamic duo of April Camlin on drums/vocals and Albert Schatz on modular synth.

Their meditative krautrock stylings consist mainly of Schatz adding and subtracting layers of synth arpeggios from a soundscape upon which Camlin lays down beats.

The polyrhythmic interplay between the two on some of the songs is mas-

tense drum parts require speed and endurance, but I think her true skills as a drummer are showcased in her own band. Camlin has great technique, but instead of opting for flashy solos, she instead focuses more on evolving, complex grooves, like Can's Jaki Liebezit.

Having seen Wume more than once over the past three years, it's safe to say they've stepped up their game. Their set of mostly new material feels tighter and more blissful, with jamming segments that build to soaring highs.

Schatz even pulled a violin out and ran it through an echo effect, producing a psychedelic screeching noise, like an acoustic version of a 'buildup before the drop' synth rise. Consider me excited for whatever projects the duo has in store for 2018.

After Wume played, Schrader and Rice took the stage in a Giants jacket and a suit, respectively,

and it was immediately clear that this was a new kind of Music Beat show. Without his red tom-tom drum — a common feature of Music Beat's live performances — Schrader pulled some dance moves from the Sam Herring playbook, leaping around and gesturing to the audience as they began the set with "Dunce."

The band had instrumentals playing in the background — including drummers David Jacober and Jeremy Hyman, saxophonist Andrew Bernstein, and guitarist/cellist Owen Gardner, the latter two from fellow Baltimore band Horse Lords — and credited the expansive cast of guest musicians on *Riddles* between songs.

This new live approached worked, but I felt a kind of sad nostalgia watching them play a longer, heavier version of their classic "Sermon" without Schrader pounding his red tom like a madman.

In fact, most of their old songs had rewritten drum parts on a full kit which really hyped up their more fun songs like "Laughing" and "Pink Moons" from *Party Jail*. They played everything from *Riddles* except for the instrumental meditation "Humbucker Blues."

The new songs sounded fantastic, minus a technical slip-up during the title track where Rice's bass tuner malfunctioned and cut the sound out temporarily. While fixing the issue, the audience was treated to one of Schrader's trademark acapella improvisations, which might have veered into a Sting song at some point.

Each track was preceded with Schrader explaining his idiosyncratic lyrics, which seem to alternate between bizarre storytelling, abstract imagery grounded in social commentary and just straight-up "ooooooo"-ing.

My favorite stories he told were about "Kid Radium" and "Culebra," two of the more melodic highlights from the new record. "Kid Radium" talks about how the lack of regulation of dangerous chemicals (radium and lead) affects the poor in Baltimore, Freddie Gray in particular.

"Culebra," meanwhile, discusses the beautiful island off the coast of Puerto Rico, where the ruins of old sugar plantations stand in juxtaposition to the abject poverty on the island.

They closed the show out with the brutal "Rats," which one might recognize from the Deacon-scored *Rat Film* that was released last fall. I was a bit disappointed that this was the only song where the audience broke out into a mosh pit, but Music Beat's set was so diverse in intensity that it probably wouldn't have fit the entire time.

Overall, Schrader and Rice packed the house and proceeded to bring it down with a set showcasing all their shredding skills. Catch them on tour if you can!

Artivism Day displays the power of art

By RUDY MALCOM
Staff Writer

A floormate, much to my chagrin, recently declared that the humanities and the arts were unimportant. He argued that being able to communicate well is great, but only science, technology, engineering and math are critical to civilization's survival and success.

Artivism Day on March 4 at Impact Hub Baltimore in the Station North Arts and Entertainment District demonstrated the absurdity of his claim. As its website describes, the venue serves as a "part innovation lab, part coworking space, part civic forum" that provides a "space that connects [its] members to the ideas, resources, and people they need to make tangible social impact."

The event honored the efforts and achievements of some of Baltimore's finest creative organizations and individuals — poets, singers, dancers, violinists, drummers — of a variety of ages to generate awareness for and combat violence in the City.

For example, Artivism Day celebrated Baltimore Ceasefire, whose members — among other undertakings — have communicated with members of gangs and urged them not to commit murder.

Last month, the City went 12 days without a single homicide. Given that the

Baltimore Sun reported this August that "someone is killed in Baltimore every 19 hours," this is worth noting.

Artivism Day was convened by Sheila Gaskins, the founder of Artparthied, and Kenneth Morrison, the executive director of Dew More Baltimore.

Artparthied, according to Gaskins in an interview with *BmoreArt*, seeks to create a desegregated, equitable and inclusive arts scene without inequities for and racism against artists of color.

Dew More Baltimore, according to its website, is "dedicated to using art and community organizing as tools to increase community engagement."

Dew More Baltimore's programs amplify the voices and develop the leadership skills of young people through the arts, particularly spoken-word poetry, in order to stimulate social reform.

Many participants of Artivism Day recited their spoken-word poetry to rebuke, for example, rape culture, police brutality and the disproportionate amount of violence in black communities.

Their captivating and

evocative performances, which highlighted their mastery of cadence and word play, rendered profound insights and call for immediate action.

U.S. Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith, at her Turnbull Lecture in the Mudd Auditorium last October, proclaimed that reading poetry is a political act. Writers, she said, can use verse to take a stand or educate readers about an issue — teach them that they are part of a social problem.

Smith explained that the speaker forces the reader to accept the former's authority and their crafted experiences and emotions.

Indeed, sophomore Karter Burnett, who performed at Artivism Day and is involved with Dew More Baltimore, emphasized that this ability of art may be attributable to its illumination of the personal impact of social ills.

"There's legislation, and yes, there's protest, but art is another form of that, and it's really important to show people what happens on an individual level," Burnett said.

Burnett also spoke about

SEE ARTIVISM, B4



FILE PHOTO

Eric Puchner read at the local coffee shop/bookstore Bird in Hand.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Bringing together art and activism

ARTIVISM, FROM B3

the disconnect between Hopkins students and the City.

"You think, 'Oh, that's never going to happen to me,' especially when you're in the privileged position being at Hopkins. You think, 'Oh, that's happening outside of Baltimore,' but it's not, it's here. Getting that individual level of 'this is affecting my family' calls people to action," they said.

Together, Burnett and freshman Giuliana Nicolucci-Altman recited a poem in which they denounced what they believe to be flaws in the University's relationship with the rest of Baltimore.

"It's a piece that criticizes Hopkins and its relationship with the community — Hopkins as an institution, historically taking away or displacing communities," Nicolucci-Altman said.

She admitted that she had worried that their performance would be received poorly due to a stigma associated with their being Hopkins students, who generally are insulated from violence.

"People were skeptical about Hopkins being there because of the reputation that we have as a privileged, sheltered, isolated few that don't really care about Baltimore," she said. "The fact that we were there represents our community outreach and that we care and that we're here to listen and that we have something to say, as well."

She described the rewarding nature of the experience.

"It was well-received. People were telling us afterwards that they liked our performance, and that was so gratifying because not only were they accepting us into the conversation, but they were interested in what we had to say and wanted to hear more," she said.

Burnett stressed that though Hopkins does have volunteer-based efforts, it is imperative that such initiatives continue.

Although we are young people, Artivism Day affirmed our potential to incite social change.

The event's first act featured a large group of children from WombWork Productions of various ages (younger than us), who spoke, sang and danced in a superbly delivered condemnation of youth violence and urgent demand for reform.

The performers demanded the acknowledgment of racial trauma and the lies of white supremacy and discussed how police corruption and materialism cultivate internalized destruction in black males by age 10. Police brutality isn't only a threat, but a "brainwashing residual from slavery."

"Save our city and the lives we cherish," they chanted. "If we don't act now, our city will perish."

Hopkins Symphony Orchestra incorporates beatboxing in concert

By CLAIRE BEAVER

For The News-Letter

On Saturday, March 5, The Hopkins Symphony Orchestra took a leap in a new, more modern direction by introducing a new element to the classical concerts they are known for: beatboxing.

The Hopkins Symphony Orchestra is a group composed of students, alumni, faculty and musicians from the community.

Together, this collection of musicians forms a full orchestra with the goal of combining their unique backgrounds and experiences to bring music to the Hopkins area.

Their concerts are free for Hopkins students and cost \$12 dollars for Hopkins faculty, staff, and alumni, as well as for the general public.

Due to the construction currently underway in Shriver Hall, the group's performances have been relocated to the Bunting Meyerhoff Interfaith and Community Service Center, just across from the tennis courts on Homewood Campus.

This performance began as expected, with a performance of the "Rosamunde Overture" by Franz Schubert. It was beautifully played, with the members of the orchestra clearly attuned to each other and the

conductor.

It was clear that this group put in the effort and hours of work required to play such a piece.

The next pieces were "Overture" and "Dance of the Comedians" from *The Bartered Bride* by Bedřich Smetana, a Czech composer to those less familiar with the classical music scene.

The pieces were again beautifully played by the orchestra, and this was the point when they introduced Shodekeh's beatboxing.

Shodekeh is a musical accompanist that specializes in beatboxing and vocal percussion. He is a faculty member and accompanist at Towson University's Department of Dance and at Duke University's American Dance Festival.

At the beginning of his songs with the Orchestra, he was less than impressive. Barely audible, he made almost solely swooshing sounds, which didn't seem very well-rehearsed.

Additionally, Shodekeh was not keeping the same time as the conductor, and the disparity was noticeable.

However, as the piece continued, he picked up the pace and added extra sounds and more complicated rhythms and styles to his performance.

By the time "Overture"

was over, the audience, which had initially been uncertain of what to make of Shodekeh's performance, was less uncomfortable. Rather,

they had clearly perked up and were engaged for the remainder of his time on stage.

The beatboxing solo that Shodekeh performed between pieces is what made his performance truly worthwhile. Shodekeh showed off his range and ability to mimic more than just the wind, a highlight being when he imitated a record scratching.

A smooth transition from this solo into the next piece where he collaborated with the Orchestra solidified his aptitude for music and allowed his true abilities to show through.

He continued into "Dance of the Comedians" with confidence, further displaying his skill.

What had started off as a rocky performance turned into a pleasant and interesting set combining



COURTESY OF THE HOPKINS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Hopkins Symphony Orchestra performed with the beatboxer Shodekeh this past weekend.

the classical and the modern in a refreshing way.

There was a brief intermission after Shodekeh finished his performance.

When the audience returned, the Orchestra closed with "Symphony No. 7 in D Minor Op 70" by Antonín Dvořák, another lesser-known name typically reserved for those with orchestral backgrounds.

This piece was longer than I personally bargained for. It felt like the concert began to drag a bit towards the end. Still, there is clearly great talent among the players in the Orchestra.

The night lasted about two hours in total, minus the discussion with Max Derrickson, Jed Gaylin and Shodekeh that preceded the concert.

The next and final performance by the Hopkins

Symphony Orchestra for the 2017-18 season is scheduled for Sunday, April 29 at 3 p.m. It will again be located at the Bunting Meyerhoff Interfaith and Community Service Center.

For the student looking to spend an afternoon listening to well-rehearsed, complex orchestral music, I highly recommend attending their next concert.

There will not be beatboxing at this event, which, based on their struggle to effectively blend the two styles, seems like it will be a plus.

While joining forces with Shodekeh was a valiant effort to attract more people to their concert, the Hopkins Symphony Orchestra is better off focusing on their area of specialty and playing what they usually do — classical music.

Oscars 2018 Reactions

"I don't understand why people get so heated about the Oscars. The Academy chooses something, it's probably not what you want — who cares? That being said, *LADY BIRD* was *ROBBED*, and Greta deserved better."

- Katherine Gillis '21

"The 2018 Oscars brought very little surprises, included a questionable montage of war films, and was about an hour and a half too long. That being said, it was about time Guillermo Del Toro was honored for his artistry. Say what you want about *The Shape of Water*, but that man loves what he does unabashedly."

- Luis Curiel '18

"I get that the Oscars is not meant to be only about award presentations, but the filler segments were painfully boring. Regarding Best Supporting Actress, Allison Janney was brutally unflinching in her portrayal of Tonya Harding's mother LaVona to great effect. But Laurie Metcalf deserved that Oscar for her beautifully complex portrayal of Lady Bird's mother Marion McPherson, hands down. Playing the 'evil mother' is not easy, but playing a much more typical mom and still making her interesting is a lot harder."

- Catherine Palmer '18

"America the brave — where our leader is orange and we fuck fish-men."

- Will Kirsch '18

"First of all, to put Laurie Metcalf and Allison Janney against each other in the same category is homophobic. Forcing the LGBTQ community to choose who to campaign for between those two female powerhouses felt targeted. Then to give Allison Janney the award for what amounted to a featured role (some of which was taken up by a parrot) while Laurie Metcalf carried almost half of *Lady Bird* on her sensible, begrudgingly lovable shoulders? That's something we all should take offense to."

- Sarina Redzinski '19

"Why did *Lady Bird*, one of the best films of the year, walk away with nothing? Why did *Dunkirk* (which was a literal snoozefest besides the same old Hans Zimmer 'time' schtick), win Best Sound Editing over *Baby Driver* and its car chase sequences timed to '90s rock? I have so many questions for the Academy voters, but hey, at least they announced the Best Picture winner correctly this year! Long live mythical fish man and Sally Hawkins' beautiful performance."

- Kelsey Ko '19

"I wanted to watch the Oscars live, but the violent winds disconnected the cable for all of 9 East, so I had to try and find a live stream. I downloaded the ABC app and logged in with my cable provider, only to find out that 'live stream is not available in your area.' After that I went to *reddit* to try and find a (less than legal) live stream, but found that as fast as streams went up, they were being pulled down. I read through the angry comments on the *reddit* thread, then resigned myself to the fact that I would not be able to watch them live and just occasionally refreshed the page that had live updates of the results to see who won what."

- Gregory Melick '19

"I have always found Jimmy Kimmel to be a lackluster comedian whose humor hinges upon surprise celebrity appearances. The Oscars proved to be no exception. Kumail Nanjiani and Lupita Nyong'o should've hosted instead. Also, Boss Baby deserved some more love."

- Rollin Hu '19

"Laurie Metcalf got SO snubbed. Allison Janney also plays an angry mom, you can fight me."

- Claire Beaver '20

"Us indie music lovers finally got our moment of vindication when the stunningly handsome (#femalegaze) Sufjan Stevens took to the stage to perform with the amazingly badass St. Vincent. Also, we got to see Gael García Bernal, aka Rodrigo from *Mozart in the Jungle*, sing softly and sweetly, so I can't really complain."

- Katherine Logan '20

"I went into the Oscars with two goals: for *Boss Baby* to lose in every way imaginable and for *Get Out* to win each of the four categories it was nominated in. Hell, if I could, I would've given *Get Out* five Oscars. But sometimes, you don't get what you want and Best Picture goes to a (still very good) movie about wanting to make out with a fish. So it goes. The only thing left to do now is to wait approximately 360 days for *Black Panther* to win what I can only assume will be all of the Oscars."

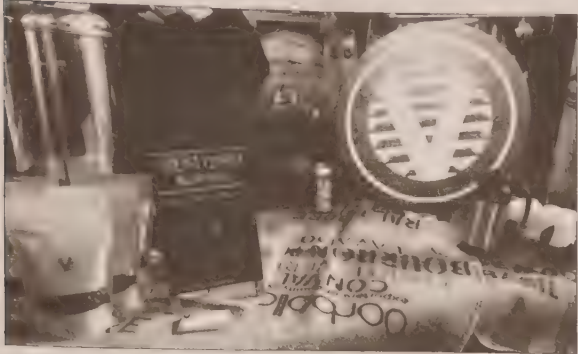
- Nicholas Douglass '20

"I really appreciated that Lupita Nyong'o and Kumail Nanjiani were on the same stage to represent DREAMers and immigrants. As an Indian immigrant myself, I've seen my racist Indian-American relatives hate on immigrants from literally every other country but their own, which is why it's so important for us to see immigrants of different races standing together"

- Diva Parekh '19

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

The beauty of the latte and the bitterness of beer



COURTESY OF JESSE WU
Vent Coffee Roasters, a local small-batch roastery, hosted the event.

By **JESSE WU**
For *The News-Letter*

After a long week of midterms, homework and studying, I needed a break. What better place to have it than at the Union Craft Brewing for Vent Coffee Roasters' Latte Art Throw-down?

Okay, that title was kind of a lot.

In preparation for Coffee Fest Baltimore (March 16-18), Vent Coffee Roasters hosted a friendly latte art competition between local craft coffee shops. Competitors included baristas from Vent and Vagrant, with some familiar names like Charles Village's own Bird in Hand and Federal Hill's 3 Bean.

Wilde Thyme food truck was parked outside, serving up delicious lamb meatball pitas. It took us a while to find the inconspicuous entrance to this massive brick building that claimed to be Union Craft Brewing on Google Maps, but once we were inside, the place was packed.

The taproom was open for business as usual, but part of the warehouse space was cleared out to make room

for a latte tournament. There was a mix of coffee enthusiasts like myself, journalists like myself and well-trained baristas. Unfortunately, I'm not even close to a well-trained barista.

Anyway, the tournament itself consisted of a 16 slot bracket with single elimination. There was a \$5 buy-in for competitors. Third place would be decided by a matchup between the losers of the semifinal round.

The competition was judged by a panel of three local personalities: Alysha, a local food & lifestyle blogger and author of "discovercharmcity," Michelle, one of the head roasters for Thread Coffee, and Isaiah, a reviewer for Yelp Baltimore.

During each round, the baristas poured their lattes and placed them on the table for the judges to get ROASTED (hehe). The judges proceeded to turn around and deliberate.

The lattes were handed out to the crowd after every round. My boy and I managed to snag one, and it was beautiful — at least until we ruined it by consumption.

Third place got two tickets to Coffee Fest (valued at

\$120), two mugs (one from Espresso Parts and another from Vent) and a free bag of beans. Second place got all the third place prizes plus a money pot. First place got all the third place prizes plus a bottle of Baltamaro, a coffee amaro liqueur, courtesy of the Baltimore Whiskey Company.

During the final round, competitors had to pour into a tall and narrow Union Craft Brewing glass instead of a traditional wide and short coffee cup. Now that's a tall order (I'm really the funniest human being on Earth), but Vagrant barista Josh's artwork impressed everyone.

The winners were as follows: In first place, Josh from Vagrant Coffee; second, Kaya from Vent Coffee Roasters; and third was Kirsty, an independent contender.

Who would've thought that coffee and beer would go together so well? With both espresso machines and beer on tap, the answer comes in the form of the Baltimore Brew Club.

"We were really happy with the turnout," Rachel, an organizer of the event, said. Rachel works for the Baltimore Brew Club, which helps connect local non-profits, breweries and coffee roasters through events and partnerships.

"It's supposed to be a fun, casual event, because even though we're all operating businesses, it's important to have a community," Rachel said.

She also authors the local blog "Fleet Street Write-up."

Vent and Union are both members of the Club,

which includes other familiar local names like Heavy Seas Beer and Baltimore Whiskey Company.

Not only was this event a great place for businesses to gather for some friendly competition and beer, but it was also a great opportunity for posers like me to get in the game. The diversity of the crowd made me feel that anyone could belong.

The Charm City coffee community is full of vibrant individuals, and I'm glad that I was able to join it for this event. Some serious coffee shops around here have training programs for baristas so that they can spend the time and the energy perfecting their craft.

I recognized some familiar faces in the crowd, including Will, a barista for 3 Bean Coffee, a shop in Federal Hill that recently debuted two roasts: Triton and Triumph. These are their first two coffees, and they held a release party a few weeks ago that I attended. Will competed in the tournament representing the shop.

I didn't try any beer — because underage drinking is illegal and therefore immoral and therefore never happens and never will — but I did try Vent's Maiden Voyage Blend in drip coffee form, and it was delicious. The logical conclusion I drew was to leave with a bag to brew with my press at home.

The experience was 10/10, and I will definitely be on the lookout for things like this in the future.

Well, it's time to go back to life as a pre-med university student. See you all next week!

Mute does not live up to Duncan Jones' reputation

By **LUIS CURIEL**
Staff Writer

In 2009, a small film called *Moon* was released by Duncan Jones, the son of the famous David Bowie. It was Jones' debut film and starred recent Oscar Winner Sam Rockwell as an astronaut on the moon in the near future.

Moon was revered by critics, and it's one of the most interesting science fiction films of the 21st century. Jones' next film was the Jake Gyllenhaal-led *Source Code*, which was also met with positive reviews, so it was safe to say that the bar that Jones had established for himself was pretty high.

Unfortunately, Jones' most recent outputs have not only lagged behind *Moon* and *Source Code*, but also have made the success of those two films look like a fluke. First it was with *Warcraft*, based on the video game, and now with his new Netflix original film in *Mute*.

Mute stars Alexander Skarsgård, Paul Rudd and Justin Theroux. The story follows our main character Leo (Skarsgård), who is mute and looking for his girlfriend, Naadirah (played by Seyneb Saleh), who has gone missing. Along the way, Leo meets Bill (Rudd) and Duck (Theroux) who are best friends that want to escape their duty as U.S. soldiers.

The film makes giant leaps into how these characters are intertwined, and how they are all somewhat useful to one another.

In reality, the connections that are made seem incredibly misplaced. Each character's story arc is mishandled, not to mention that their motivations make no sense whatsoever and at times make you wonder how this got approved by a studio.

Not falling far behind are the performances by the cast members. Skarsgård has received acclaim for his role as Perry Wright in the fantastic *Big Little Lies*. However, part of what made his character work was that he wasn't the lead, and his rapid change in tone aided his stoic demeanor.

However in *Mute*, Skarsgård's character is handicapped and doesn't allow him to use his voice to his own advantage. Not to mention the fact that Skarsgård's lack of charisma only further hinders Leo as a character. Additionally, Leo's muteness is

irrelevant to the story, it's really just there to attempt to make it harder to find his beloved Naadirah and make him all the more strange.

Meanwhile, Paul Rudd and Justin Theroux do the best that they can with characters that are written to be creepy assholes who are indebted as they try to get away from a U.S. Army that can't seem to stop going into war.

Rudd is naturally charismatic and even makes the creepy mustache work. Theroux on the other hand plays an incredibly over-the-top surgeon who is more creepy than charismatic. However, the script doesn't allow much more depth for his character.

It's worth mentioning that this film is set in futuristic Berlin. If you saw a still from the film you'd think it was set in the same universe; however, upon further inspection it's clear that one is a bargain brand version of the other. The foreground and background don't match-up, often looking as if they ran out of cash to refine the background.

It's incredibly surprising for a film that was funded by Netflix to look how this one does: sterile and like it was a made for TV. The only positive thing that I can pinpoint for this film is that we get to see Rockwell's character from *Moon* in a cameo that is equal parts funny and out of place.

Maybe that's why Netflix should be seen with a bit of caution: Sure it provides opportunities for directors to pursue their passion projects, i.e. *Mute* and small-possible-box office failure films (*The Cloverfield Paradox*), but how much credit can we give to a company that puts out one good film for every 10?

The next film funded by Netflix from a noticeable director that comes to mind is Martin Scorsese's *The Irishman*, which just finished principal photography and will now be in the editing room for at least a year — so we just have to wait to find an answer to that question.

All in all, *Mute* is a film that doesn't deserve to be two hours nor is it bad enough to warrant a hate-watch. Watch the much more interesting *Moon* or give the Oscar-Nominated *Mudbound* a shot. Honestly, anything but watching this is a better use of your time.

Planet Runway combines fashion and sustainability

By **TANYA WONGVIBULSIN**
Staff Writer

Do you buy clothes that you know you'll throw away after a year or so? How many clothes in your closet do you actually wear? If you are like me and many other college students, through contemplating these questions you'll quickly realize that you are participating in fast fashion, a habit that hurts both your wallet and the environment.

It is undeniable that fashion feeds off of our consumerist desires. We don't need multiple pairs of shoes or 10 t-shirts each in different colors. We want them, and oftentimes, we forget about the negative consequences our fashion habits can have on the environment.

Just because we aren't thinking about the repercussions of our actions doesn't mean that they aren't having real, detrimental effects every day.

Currently, fashion is only behind oil as the most polluting industry in the world, according to an article in the *Huffington Post*. This is perhaps a signal that now is the time for us to look in the mirror and reflect upon how we can change this striking

reality.

Luckily, there are ways to be both fashionable and sustainable — one of the main takeaways of Planet Runway, an event hosted by Students for Environmental Action last Saturday.

Junior Clarissa Chen, the co-lead of Planet Runway's planning committee, said that the event was meant to show students ways to approach fashion more sustainably.

"I think having a fashion show where we show many different ways in which you can think about environmentalism when you think about your fashion choices demonstrates that there's a lot of creative solutions around dressing sustainably and also looking great while doing it," Chen said.

The event started off with an exciting fashion show by student designers who all sourced and constructed their pieces in a sustainable manner.

Senior Rachel Krieger refashioned her collection of free Hopkins t-shirts into a wrap skirt and top. Junior Tracy Gao made an elegant white and blue tube top and cape with a traditional Chinese dress along with other thrifted materials. Sophomore

Ally Hardebeck added personal touches to a thrifted denim jacket and Converse with embroideries and paintings.

Not only did the fashion show showcase different creative approaches to sustainable fashion, it also embraced diversity with the inclusion of student models of various body types and ethnicities. This is a commendable decision, one that is starting to become more common in the fashion industry.

At the end of the fashion show, attendees enjoyed delicious hors d'oeuvres while waiting for the event-wide clothing swap. Everyone in the event had to bring a piece of gently used clothing for admission.

These clothes were then organized on racks and tables to create a "free store" where people could choose whatever they wanted and take it free of charge.

The idea behind the creation of the free store was to serve as a great way to recycle clothes among different people. After all, one person's spring cleaning rejects might be exactly what another person has been looking for.

Chen believes that the free store will directly engage students with sustainable fashion.

She also hopes that Planet Runway will inspire students to participate in sustainable fashion not because it is a trendy thing to do, but because it is something that they

should engage with on a moral level. Ideally, students will even be inspired to adapt their purchasing practices.

"The idea behind sustainable fashion is not participating in that wasteful cycle, which is very easy to do in a consumerist society," Chen said. "But rather [it's] looking to the resources that we've already used and creative new ways to change them into something new. Even if it's not new in the world, it's new to you. And you can change that and make something special."

Planet Runway showed me that participating in sustainable fashion isn't difficult. According to the small information booklet given upon entering the event, "sustainable fashion is everywhere — any way we can creatively reuse old clothes, weave sustainable fabrics, or reduce our fast fashion purchases."

As someone who loves fashion, this event redefined my view of sustainable fashion and encouraged me to reflect upon my own purchasing habits.

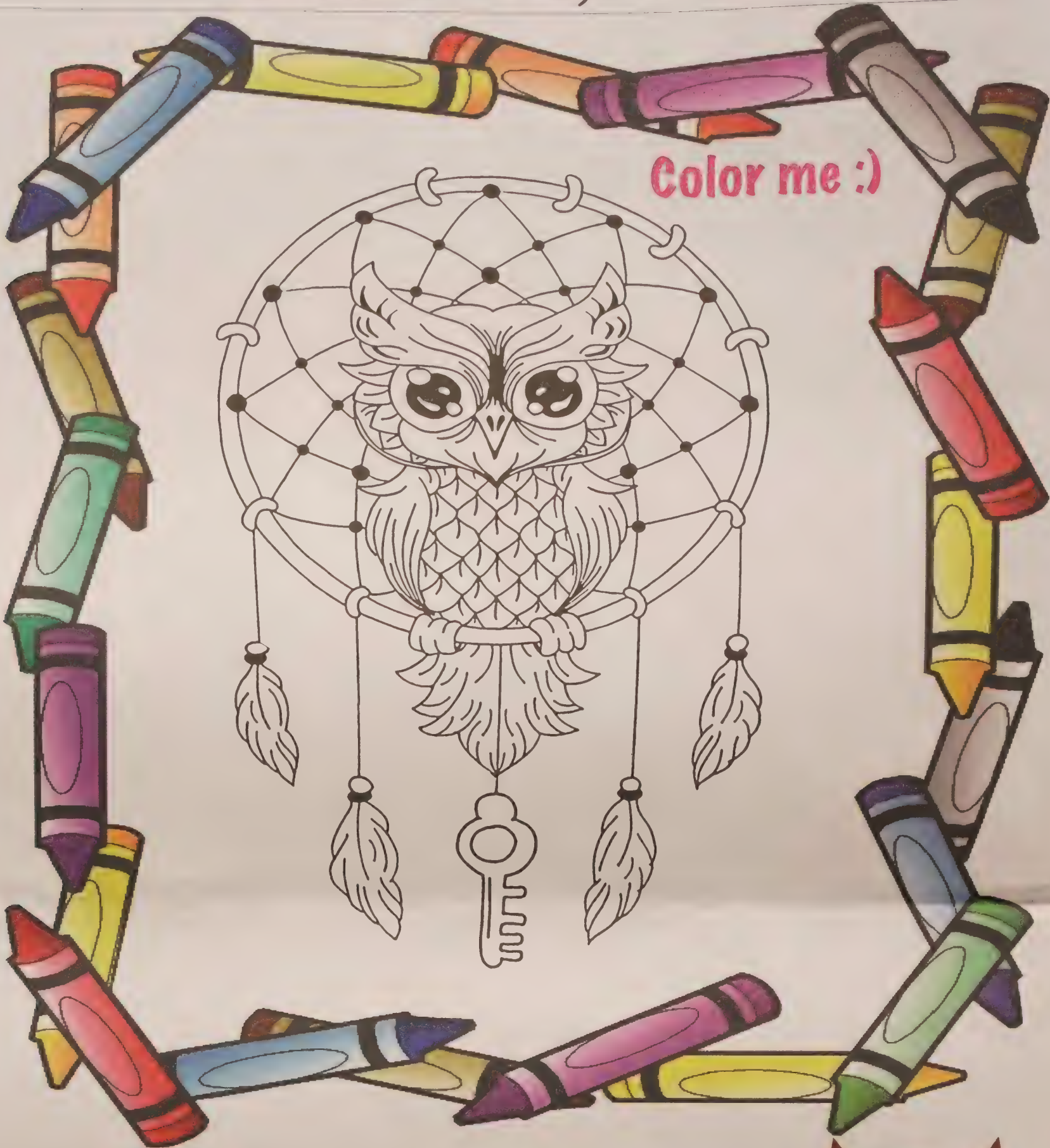
I would also like to give a shout out to all the student designers, models and organizers who put immense amounts of work and time into making this wonderful event come to life.

It is a unique, creative event for the Hopkins community that, if they reacted anything like myself, helped raise the consciousness of my fellow attendees.



THIERRY SOLLEROT/CC-BY-SA2
Alexander Skarsgård stars as Leo in Duncan Jones' new film *Mute*.

CARTOONS, ETC.



03/08/2018 Sudoku

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By: GISELLE RUIZ



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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Neanderthals may be smarter than once thought



PUBLIC DOMAIN
Cave paintings in the La Pasiaga Cave in Spain from 64,000 years ago are thought to be created by Neanderthals.

By JESSICA KASAMOTO
Staff Writer

From the construction of the ancient pyramids of Egypt to the Colossus of Rhodes to the terracotta army, archaeologists are constantly amazed by what humans thousands of years ago were capable of accomplishing in the absence of modern-day technology. Recently, archaeologists discovered the creators of

newly found cave paintings over 64,000 years old. The artists behind the pieces are actually Neanderthals, a species of archaic humans that might be more intellectually advanced than people have previously believed. The fossils of Neanderthals were first discovered in 1829 in present-day Belgium. Over the years, scientists have come to believe that this species lived be-

tween 40,000 and 400,000 years ago in Europe, with their historical footsteps spanning all the way from Siberia to Spain. While the Neanderthals' existence did at one point chronologically overlap with that of modern humans, modern humans did not make their first appearance in Africa until about 45,000 years ago, when they first began to migrate into Europe. Five thousand years after the migration, people believed that Neanderthals had disappeared completely from the surface of the planet. Scientists still dispute whether Neanderthals should be classified as their own species, namely the *Homo neanderthalensis*, or whether they should be categorized as a sub-species of *Homo sapiens*.

The DNA of Neanderthals is 99.7 percent similar to that of modern humans. That makes them closer related to humans than chimpanzees, who are humans' closest living cousins with a DNA correspondence rate of 98.8 percent. Additionally, Neanderthals had a very similar body structure to that of the modern human, except for a few distinct features. Namely, Neanderthals had a much shorter and stockier build, shorter limb proportions and larger noses. They also had a very distinct low, thick brow ridge that was evident on their skulls. Since their initial discovery in the 1800s, Neanderthals have often been portrayed as monkey-like barbarians that are inferior to modern-day humans. After all, they went extinct while the branch of modern humans continued to survive and thrive. However, further discoveries made since then have led us to believe that these creatures were in fact closer to the intellect of modern humans than researchers had previously believed. Recent findings have shown that, in addition to the ability to craft and use tools for hunting and survival, Neanderthals were also capable of more abstract, creative thinking. While we have known

SEE CAVE, PAGE B9

High school behavior is predictor of later success

By SABRINA CHEN
Science & Technology Editor

An individual's high school grades may do more than just get him into college. A recent study published in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* stated that a student's interest in high school academics is strongly tied to income 50 years later. The study, lead by Marion Spengler at the University of Tübingen, analyzed data collected from 346,660 high school students in the United States in 1960. This data includes student behaviors and attitudes, personality traits, cognitive abilities, parental socioeconomic status, and demographic factors. The study also included follow up data from 1,952 of those students 50 years later and follow up data from

81,912 students 11 years later. The follow-up surveys included questions measuring educational attainment, income and workplace prestige. Examining follow-up conditions, both 11 and 50 years after the initial data collection, the researchers realized that an interest in school was correlated to more prestigious jobs and higher income. "Educational researchers, political scientists and economists are increasingly interested in the traits and skills that parents, teachers and schools should foster in children to enhance chances of success later in life," Spengler said, according to *ScienceDaily*. "Our research found that specific behaviors in high school have long-lasting effects for one's later life." Spengler said that these effects were present even after socioeconomic status, SEE SCHOOL, PAGE B9

"Our research found that specific behaviors in high school have long-lasting effects."
— MARION SPENGLER, UNIV. OF TÜBINGEN

Researchers link heavy drinking to dementia

By ISAAC CHEN
Staff Writer

Ethanol in alcohol, as well as its metabolite acetaldehyde, can lead to direct and permanent structural and functional changes to the brain. Heavy drinking is commonly associated with unintentional accidents such as car crashes and falls. Additionally, drinking is also associated with thiamine deficiency, which is a phenomenon that leads to Korsakoff's syndrome. Besides its apparent association with several health problems, heavy drinking is also a potential catalyst for dementia. In a recent study published in *The Lancet Public Health* journal, Michael Schwarzsinger of the Translational Health Economics Network in Paris, France and colleagues identified

that alcohol disorders are a major risk factor for all types of dementia, especially early onset dementia. In the U.S., binge drinking is a serious but preventable public health issue. Binge drinking, according to National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA), is a pattern of drinking that raises the blood alcohol concentration above 0.08g/dL. This typically occurs either when men have five or more drinks or when women have four or more drinks over a span of two hours or less. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one in six adults binge drink about four times in a month, and each of them drinks approximately eight drinks every time. Of those who

SEE DRINK, PAGE B9

Pluripotent stem cells can treat Alzheimer's disease

By ANNA CHEN
Staff Writer

At the University of Washington School of Medicine in Seattle (UW), a team of researchers found that improving the flow of proteins in and out of neurons has the potential to treat and perhaps even prevent Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's is a form of dementia affecting more than five million Americans. Alzheimer's is often affected by genetics, but the greatest risk factor is aging. The disorder results in loss of memory, learning ability, reasoning and navigating skills, sense of identity, and even the ability to recognize one's closest family members. Alzheimer's is predominantly caused by the death of brain cells, which scientists believe is the accumulation of two types of proteins in the brain: amyloid beta, which collects in the space outside of brain cells, and phosphorylated tau, which builds up inside the neurons. Recently, researchers have proposed that this accumulation of proteins happens due to a malfunctioning protein trafficking system. The membrane-bound compartments that are largely responsible for transporting proteins from one place to another in the cell or shipping proteins into or out of the cell are called endosomes. A defect in the endosomal networks

can prove critically detrimental as time progresses. The research team at UW, led by Assistant Professor Jessica Young from the department of pathology, hypothesized that increasing protein trafficking in neurons in vitro can significantly decrease the accumulation of amyloid beta and a precursor of phosphorylated tau. To shed light on their inquiry, they obtained skin cells from consenting patients with Alzheimer's and from healthy people with no dementia. They subjected these skin cells to conditions that caused them to reverse their development and become pluripotent stem cells. Pluripotent stem cells usually represent the earliest form of cells in development. They are able to differentiate into practically any cell depending on environmental stimuli. These induced pluripotent stem cells (iPSCs) can be treated to differentiate into neurons, and then the scientist can study these neurons in vitro. Induced pluripotent stem cells are exceptionally important in biomedical research because they allow scientists to study a patient's own cells without having to experiment directly on the patient. Since all cells in an individual share the same genome, these differentiated iPSCs induced from skin cells would share the same mutations as the neurons of an Alzheimer's patient.

SEE CELLS PAGE B9

Hopkins Highlights

Tcrunch app allows instructors to get real-time feedback from students

John Hickey, a biomedical engineering PhD candidate, recently launched his app, Tcrunch on the Apple and Google app stores. The goal of the app is to allow instructors to ask for feedback from their students. Hickey developed Tcrunch after teaching his first university-level class at Hopkins and realizing he wanted more feedback with regard to his teaching style, activities he tried and the difficulty level of the class. He thought that the end-of-semester course evaluation was too delayed in helping him figure out what to improve on as a professor and wanted a way to get immediate critiques after classes. The app is aimed at improving communication between professors and students. Hickey said that after testing the app out during an intersession course, he realized he was able to restructure class time and homework load to better suit the needs of his students. Hickey hopes the app will prompt teachers to continuously re-evaluate their classes and approach to teaching to best benefit the students. "Finding out what the professors and students wanted allowed me to see the needs that were not filled by existing technologies," Hickey said, according to "The Innovative Instructor." "This resulted in an app specifically designed to help teachers, instead of the other way around, for example, a generalized polling tool that is also applied to teaching."

Researchers find asymmetrical cells more susceptible to cancer

Hopkins researchers recently published a paper in *Oncotarget* stating how symmetry and "symmetry breaking" could provide insight on cancer treatments. Because normal cell and tissue function is due to the precisely tuned symmetry of molecules, symmetry breaking could signify a disruption in homeostatic states that is present in cancer. One of the authors of the study, Donald Coffey, was the deputy director of the Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center at Hopkins and recently passed away at the age of 85. This is his last published work. His co-authors, Kenneth Pienta and James Frost, are also doctors at the Hopkins School of Medicine. They decided to view cancer through the lens of something that disrupts the symmetry of biology in order to gain a new perspective on the disease. Points in the cancer network that have been broken may be most vulnerable and thus may be targeted by system-level treatments.



PUBLIC DOMAIN

The Lancet Public Health journal states binge drinking may cause dementia.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The sweet origins of modern cough drops



Allison Chen
History of Science

Along with tissues and flu medication, cough drops are just about everywhere during the winter months. They are a staple of cold and flu season and can be found in dozens of different flavors, sold by numerous different brands. At times they almost seem to straddle the boundary between candy and medicine. In fact, many early cough drop manufacturers began as candymakers and confectioners of some sort.

HALLS, though now populating the shelves at CharMar and many other stores across the U.S., began in Britain. The Hall brothers — Edwin Franklin, Thomas Harold and Norman Smith — started their business in 1893, originally as jam manufacturers. Edwin left the partnership in late 1902, but Thomas and Norman carried on, and their business eventually branched out to sell boiled sweets, caramels and other candies.

Mentho-Lyptus, as the name suggests, is a sweet containing both menthol and eucalyptus. It was introduced by the Hall brothers' company in 1927. Meant to serve as a remedy for sore throats and as a cough suppressant, it provides a soothing, cooling sensation and can also act as an oral anesthetic. HALLS' Mentho-Lyptus cough drops were introduced to the U.S. in the 1950s.

Prior to this, however, there were several well-known mass-manufactured brands of cough drops circulating in America. Among the most famous products were the Smith Brothers' cough drops.

The company was led by brothers Andrew and William, but the idea originated with their father James, a candymaker in Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

As the story goes, in 1847 a peddler named Sly Hawkins sold James the recipe for a cough reliever. James used his confectioneering experience to refine it into a candy-like product. William and Andrew helped their father, eventually taking over the business after his death in 1866.

As a marketing strategy and in order to discourage the sale of imitations, the Smith brothers added images of their faces to brand boxes of their products, the jars or bowls in which cough drops would be sold in drugstores and newspaper advertisements.

The word "trademark" usually came along with the images, broken up so that "Trade" appeared under William's collar and "Mark" under Andrew's, eventually becoming the brothers' nicknames. The nicknames and the men's bearded profiles became widely recognizable across the country.

However, the Smith Brothers soon faced competition.

William Luden pioneered the creation of menthol cough drops in 1881, inspired by the small bottles of menthol carried around by cold-sufferers in an effort to relieve their symptoms. He proved to be as savvy a marketer as the

Many early cough drop manufacturers began as candymakers or confectioners.

Smith brothers, most notably by providing samples of his cough drops to railroad workers, who then served as unofficial traveling advertisements across the nation.

More recently, Swiss baker and confectioner Emil Richterich founded the company that would become known as Ricola in 1930. Ten years later, it produced its first original cough drop, with its recognizable blend of herbs.

Despite the fact that most cough drops arose from confection companies, cough drops in the U.S. have largely been associated more with medicine than with candy.

This was likely due to the way in which early manufacturers chose to advertise. Luden, for instance, was said to have worked with a pharmacist to develop his original menthol formula, and he included endorsements from medical doctors in newspaper advertisements.

In the mid-1900s, the Smith Brothers advertised a version of their cough drops containing Vitamin A. This product was intended, as the newspaper inserts proclaimed, to raise the "resistance of the mucous membranes of nose and throat to cold infections."

These historical anecdotes still do not make eating cough drops like candies a good idea, but the next time you are tempted to, their sweet origins might explain your cravings.

The progressive evolution of human brain size

By CINDY JIANG
Staff Writer

There are a number of differences between Homo sapiens and our closest living relatives, the chimpanzees and bonobos. Perhaps the most striking is the variation in physical appearance, but evolution has led the three species to differ in many ways.

In a recent study published in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, scientists discovered that the size of human brains are more than three times larger than those of chimps and bonobos.

The study looked at 94 hominin fossils and revealed that the evolution of larger brains occurred separately in populations of individual species. This occurrence, along with the sudden introduction of larger-brained species and the extinction of smaller-brained species may have contributed to the disparity in brain sizes among the species.

According to Andrew Du, a postdoctoral scholar at the University of Chicago and one of the researchers in the study, brain size is a defining human trait, one that distinguishes humans from other similar species.

"[Brain size] is related to cultural complexity, language, tool making and all these other things that make us unique," Du said, according to University of Chicago (UChicago) Medicine. "The earliest hominins had brain sizes like

chimpanzees, and they have increased dramatically since then. So it's important to understand how we got here."

Du and his fellow researchers analyzed fossil specimens from a range of 13 different hominin species.

The team compared information about the Australopithecus genus, which

consisted of the earliest unambiguous human ancestors, to the Homo erectus species, whose brain size was more similar to that of present-day humans.

Looking at biological groups that descended from a common ancestor, the general trend observed was that the average brain size increased gradually over the course of three million years.

This increase was attributed to both the direct evolution of larger brains as well as the extinction of smaller-brained species. It was also discovered that the rate of brain size evolution within hominin lineages was considerably hindered in comparison to today.

Bernard Wood, a senior



PUBLIC DOMAIN

Through evolution, modern humans have acquired larger brain sizes than those of their ancestors.

author of the study, introduced Du to researching evolution through brain sizes when Du was a graduate student at the George Washington University. Du continued studying this topic throughout his time at the university and, together with his fellow students, helped co-author the paper.

People generally believe that large brains had evolved out of a series of step-like increases, with each step making human ancestors smarter. However, there seems to be no distinct correlational or causal relationship between brain size and behavior.

Du equates the reasoning behind the evolutionary increase in brain size to

the way in which a football roster is built.

In order to recruit the best players, an option would be to transform the entire team as a whole, therefore increasing their fitness, whereas another option would be to cut certain players and replace them with better candidates.

"That's exactly what we see going on in brain size," Du said. "The dominant process is like the players hitting the gym. They're evolving larger brains within a population. But we also see speciation events adding larger-brained daughter species, or recruiting bigger players, and we see extinction, or cutting the smallest players too."

Chromosome state compromised after viral infection

By ELAINE CHIAO
Science & Technology Editor

An oncovirus is a type of virus with a DNA or RNA genome that can cause cancer.

When viruses inject their own genes into a human host and their DNA begins to replicate within the host, these viruses catalyze a process that edits specific parts of the human genome in a unique, and oftentimes deleterious, way.

Recently, a review published by the University of Colorado (CU) Cancer Center in the journal *Viruses* suggested a possible route for viruses to promote cancer.

Viruses, researchers at CU claimed, inactivate the immune system through an epigenetic regulation called DNA methylation.

Epigenetics is a way to alter the level of gene expression without fundamentally changing the encoded DNA sequence. More specifically, epigenetic changes such as DNA methylation can add modifications to proteins bound to the genome, causing genes on that chromosome to be activated or silenced to particular degrees.

Viruses cause methylation of promoter regions in a gene, which act as on-and-off switches for their neighboring genes. When promoter sequences in the DNA are silenced, genes that are located next to them are incapable of being

expressed.

Sharon Kuss-Duerkop, a research instructor working in Dohun Pyeon's lab at CU Cancer Center, explained the situation they observed and stated that gene silencing causes less protein to be created in the cell.

Viruses do not directly add methyl groups to DNA on their own, at least. Rather, their entry into the body triggers the recruitment of a specific category of human proteins called DNA methyltransferases that do the job for them.

What genes would viruses prefer to methylate and why?

It might seem clear that these tiny agents would seek to turn off the genes that are required for the immune system to fight off viral intrusions. Some examples might include an anti-viral gene called interferon- β that is expressed in essentially all cell types or genes that are required by T cells to recognize viral infected cells.

Such a phenomenon certainly does not lead to beneficial changes. As a result of the methylation activity, the human immune system is often less competent in fighting off viruses, and newly formed tumors are subsequently able to evade the immune system's detection.

Researchers are now looking for a way to use this knowledge to their advantage. Knowing that viruses can weaken the immune system against

attacking cancers they cause, researchers aim to reciprocally activate the immune system toward these cancers.

Unfortunately, there are still many challenges that stand in the way between immunotherapy and cancer cure. Namely, every patient presents a unique case, and there is simply not a single therapy that can be effective for everyone.

Additionally, researchers have not been able to accurately determine the evolutionary characteristics of viruses that allow them to evade the immune system. With this understanding, researchers might one day be able to pinpoint which patients are more likely to be cured by immunotherapy.

Some people might propose using a technique that can erase all methylation sites in the genome, including many of the virally induced methylations.

However, the application of this suggestion could likely result in the overexpression of many once-methylated genes and thus would not be a productive way of combating viral influences.

Instead, Kuss-Duerkop has another idea in mind. He speculated that proper functions of the immune system can be reestablished through demethylating certain promoter regions in the DNA sequence.

Noah Yan, a sophomore

at Hopkins majoring in molecular and cellular biology, wrote in an email to *The News-Letter* that he found this research topic to be particularly interesting.

"Personally, I'm curious about which genes these viruses target. In my research, we have been working with cancer cells implanted in vivo, and the immune system often gets in the way when we are trying to grow large tumors in mice," Yan wrote.

The discoveries made by Pyeon's lab gave researchers worldwide a more comprehensive understanding of the effects of an oncoviral intrusion on the immune system. In the near future, this new understanding might play an important role in helping scientists learn how the body can harness enough of its own strength in order to effectively fight cancer.

Ultimately, the end goal of the research team at the University of Colorado is to improve the effectiveness of immune-based therapies against cancer.

"Ultimately viruses are causing these tumors to form and are further manipulating the immune system to allow tumors to keep growing," Kuss-Duerkop said, according to *ScienceDaily*. "But these same mechanisms may be key in combating tumors with immune-based therapies or in keeping cancer from developing in the first place."



PUBLIC DOMAIN

HALLS' Mentho-Lyptus cough drops were introduced to the U.S. in the 1950s.

Behavior in high school predicts career success

SCHOOL, FROM B7

IQ and personality were controlled for.

“Student characteristics and behaviors were rewarded in high school and led to higher educational attainment, which in turn was related to greater occupational prestige and income later in life,” Spengler said. “This study highlights the possibility that certain behaviors at crucial periods could have long-term consequences for a person’s life.”

These results counter past findings that bad behavior in school can predict later success in the workplace. In 2014, Nicholas Papageorge, an assistant professor of economics at Hopkins, analyzed data from a longitudinal study in Great Britain that showed behaviors such as aggression earlier on in life could predict higher earnings.

The initial data was a series of surveys filled out by teachers judging their students’ behaviors in the classroom.

The study then followed the students into adulthood and collected information on their educational attainment and employment.

Papageorge found that when students exhibit externalizing behaviors such as aggression in early

childhood, they have a propensity to thrive later on in the labor market.

On the other hand, internalizing behaviors such as shyness, timidity or overall lack of expression tends to lead students to be much less successful. Therefore Papageorge believes that in some cases, disruptive behavior in early life and school years can actually go on to be important traits in the working world.

“Our results on externalizing suggest that schools do not always foster the sorts of skills that are valuable in the labor market,” Papageorge wrote in an article for the Brookings Institute. “This finding calls into question the role of schooling in identifying and cultivating skills that are productive.”

Nevertheless, other past studies reinforce Spengler’s findings. A 2015 study published in *Frontiers in Psychology* stated that intellectual talent and behavior in middle and high school years can lead to achievement in all professional domains and can predict success.

In particular, four factors were seen to be the best predictors for later success: responsibility, respect for teachers, perseverance and a hardworking nature.

1.5 million penguins found on Danger Islands

By SABRINA CHEN
Science & Technology Editor

Over the last several decades, scientists have noticed a steady decline in one of Antarctica’s most treasured inhabitants — the Adélie penguin. These penguins reside exclusively along the Antarctic coast, along with the emperor penguin.

However, a recent study published on March 2 in the journal *Scientific Reports* states that a supercolony of over 1.5 million Adélie penguins has been found in a group of islands off the tip of the Antarctic Peninsula. These islands, known as the Danger Islands, were thought to be remote, housing no more than a few species of seabirds and seals.

The Danger Islands are hard to reach because of the choppy waters of the ocean that surrounds them. However, in 2014, co-principal investigator (co-PI) of the investigation Heather Lynch, associate professor of ecology and evolution at Stony Brook University, and her colleague Mathew Schwaller from NASA discovered guano, or seabird poop stains, in NASA satellite images. These guano stains hinted at a large population of penguins.

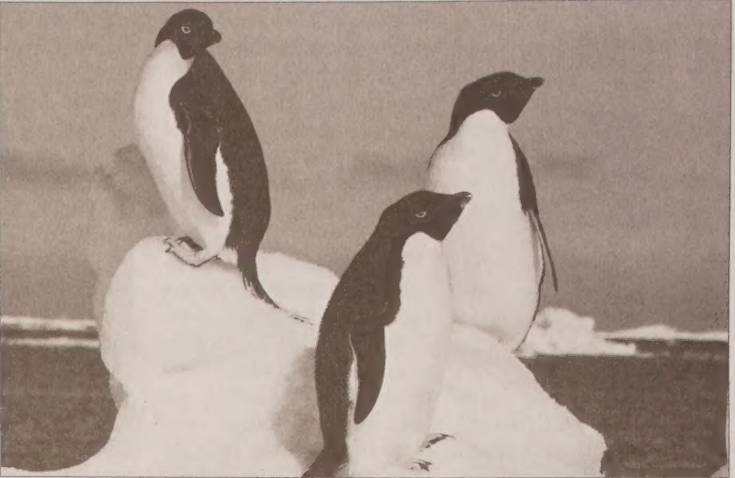
In 2015, researchers at the Woods Hole Oceanographic

Institution (WHOI) then set out to determine just how many penguins resided on these islands. To tally the penguins, the researchers used strategies such as hand-counting, drone images and a computerized counting program that analyzed photos to pick out penguin nests.

“The drone lets you fly in a grid over the island, taking pictures once per second. You can then stitch them together into a huge collage that shows the entire landmass in 2D and 3D,” co-PI Hanuman Singh, professor of mechanical and industrial engineering at Northeastern University, said according to WHOI.

Singh, who developed the drone, said that the information provided by the drone helped to search for penguin nests automatically.

Using these methods, the team came up with



PUBLIC DOMAIN
Researchers estimate there are 751,527 pairs of Adélie penguins residing on the Danger Islands.

a final estimate: 751,527 penguin pairs. This meant there were more than 1.5 million penguins.

“The population of Adélie on the east side of the Antarctic Peninsula is different from what we see on the west side,” study co-author Stéphanie Jenouvrier, a seabird ecologist at WHOI, said according to WHOI. “Is it linked to the extended sea ice condition over there? Food availability? That’s something we don’t know.”

Co-author Michael Polito from Louisiana State University and guest investigator at WHOI states that this discovery is important for investigating climate change and population dynamics.

“Not only do the Danger Islands hold the largest population of Adélie penguins on the Antarctic Peninsula, they also appear to have not suffered the population declines found along the western side of Antarctic Peninsula that are associated with recent climate change,” Polito said, according to WHOI.

WHOI is currently trying to recognize the Danger Islands as a marine protected area (MPA) by the International Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. MPAs are regions where the only human activity allowed is for conservation purposes.

Neanderthals linked to cave paintings in Spain

CAVE, FROM B7

about the ancient cave paintings in Spain for years, scientists have had a hard time dating these creations. Radiocarbon dating is often the method to do so, but it only works when the subject of focus contains a carbon-bearing material, such as charcoal.

In addition, the method is often inaccurate for objects over 40,000 years old. However, scientists have found another way to date their findings. This new method involves flowstones, a crusty mineral material created from deposits of water. Flowstone contains uranium, which, over time, breaks down into thorium. The more thorium present, the older the subject is.

Using this method, scientists now believe that the famous paintings in the La Pasiega Cave in Spain are at least 64,000 years old — too old to have been made by modern humans. According to scientists, the artists must have been the Neanderthals.

Scientists have also used this form of dating on rocks near shell jewelry. The rocks turned out to be over 100,000 years old, proving that Neanderthals also had the creative capacity to make jewelry.

Therefore, it is now nearly certain that Neanderthals began making

jewelry about 45,000 years before the modern human and made cave art about 24,000 years before, even though the two species existed at the same time.

According to João Zilhão, an archaeologist at the University of Barcelona and co-author of the study, these results imply that we can consider Neanderthals primitive humans.

It is now hard to state that these creatures were inferior to modern humans.

With this surprising discovery, the archaeological studies of ancient times continue as we begin to learn more and more

about life thousands of years ago.

While some may question the significance of these types of studies in comparison to scientific advances, junior biomedical engineering major and history minor Nicholas Sass shared his opinion on why it is important for these studies to continue.

“Ancient history is important because it gives us a sense of place about where we came from and how we arrived at where we are today,” Sass said in an interview with *The News-Letter*. “Knowing our origin is both uplifting and profoundly humbling — a perspective that is invaluable not only to policy makers, but to intellectuals of any field.”

Binge drinking may lead to dementia later in life

DRINK, FROM B7

binge drink, men tend to binge drink twice as much as women.

A “heavy drinker” is defined by the CDC as an individual who consumes 15 or more drinks per week. Unsurprisingly, heavy drinking can have detrimental effects on the body.

In Schwarzsinger’s study, the researchers analyzed data from a nationwide cohort of adults above age 20 who were admitted to hospitals in France from 2008 to 2013. They discovered that of the 31,624,156 adults discharged, 1,109,343 were diagnosed with some form of dementia.

Among the 57,353 (5.2 percent) cases of people diagnosed with early-onset dementia, 22,338 (38.9 percent) of the patients had alcohol related brain damage and 10,115 (17.6 percent) had other alcohol-use disorders, including end-stage liver diseases and epilepsy.

Jürgen Rehm, the director of the Center for Addiction

and Mental Health (CAMH) Institute for Mental Health Policy Research, elaborated on the new findings.

“The findings indicate that heavy drinking and alcohol use disorders are the most important risk factors for dementia, and especially important for those types of dementia which start before age 65, and which lead to premature deaths,” Rehm said, according to *ScienceDaily*.

Bruce Pollock, CAMH vice president of research, shared his frequent encounters with dementia patients who were too late to receive alcohol treatment interventions and identified the need for earlier prevention in primary care.

“As a geriatric psychiatrist, I frequently see the effects of alcohol use disorder on dementia, when unfortunately alcohol treatment interventions may be too late to improve cognition,” Pollock said, according to *ScienceDaily*. “Screening for and reduction of problem drinking, and treatment for

alcohol use disorders need to start much earlier in primary care.”

The research team stated that alcohol-related dementia should be recognized as a major cause of early-onset dementia.

Researchers suggested that early and brief interventions (such as structured, motivated interviews to help individuals change alcohol consumption habits) are cost-effective methods

that should be implemented into primary care. They also suggested changes in alcohol policies, such as a reduction in availability or an increase in taxation, that aimed at reducing alcohol-use disorders.

“Alcohol-induced brain damage and dementia are preventable, and known-effective preventive and policy measures can make a dent into premature dementia death,” Rehm said.



PUBLIC DOMAIN
Researchers state that alcohol is a major cause of early-onset dementia.

Researchers target amyloid plaques in Alzheimer’s

CELLS, FROM B7

These neurons differentiated from iPSCs were then treated with a compound that was found in animal studies to increase the activity of a protein complex involved in protein trafficking.

The complex, called the retromer, directs how endosomal protein packages are transported in the network and end up at the correct destination.

The compound, R33, did indeed boost the function of the retromer and led to a significant decrease in the accumulation of both amyloid beta and

phosphorylated tau.

The research team also used CRISPR, a gene editing tool, to determine that R33 could effectively lower phosphorylated tau even in cells that did not have accumulated amyloid beta, debunking the previous belief that an increase in amyloid beta causes an increase in phosphorylated tau.

“The findings suggest that something upstream is affecting the production of amyloid beta and phosphorylated tau independently,” Young said, according to *ScienceDaily*. “So one thing we’re going to work on going forward will

be using these cell lines to identify what this upstream defect might be and whether it, too, could be a target for new therapeutics to treat Alzheimer’s.”

Although the two proteins seem to be closely linked, the result suggests that the pathway for phosphorylated tau accumulation is independent from that of amyloid beta.

Alzheimer’s is not only debilitating for the patient, slowly taking away all forms of independence and human dignity, but it is also devastating for the patients’ loved ones. One third of all seniors die with

Alzheimer’s or another form of dementia.

Alzheimer’s currently has no cure or methods of prevention. The United States spent \$259 billion on medical care for Alzheimer’s patients just last year. However, the number of diagnoses continue to rise.

Young’s next step is to identify what the upstream defects affecting the production of amyloid beta and phosphorylated tau independently are.

She hopes that soon they can target these defects as potential new treatments for Alzheimer’s.

SPORTS

Which of last year's worst MLB teams will turn around in 2018?



Daniel Landy
DanLand

Opening Day is right around the corner, and with it comes all the excitement of making predictions and discussing expectations for the new season to come. Many of last year's powerhouse teams have retooled and seem primed to succeed in the upcoming season.

However, parity is a critical element of sports, and Major League Baseball experiences its fair share of postseason turnover. Take last year as the perfect example, when only five of the 10 teams that reached the playoffs in 2016 were able to replicate their success in 2017.

Let's look at several potential surprise contenders in 2018 — teams that did not reach the playoffs last season that could now be poised to make a deep postseason run.

I will begin in the NL East with the New York Mets, who did not reach the playoffs in 2017 after doing so in 2015 and 2016. The Mets' success is contingent on health, especially in the starting rotation. While at full strength, the Mets boast a rotation that could match up with any other starting staff in baseball.

Homegrown talents Jacob deGrom, Matt Harvey, Steven Matz, Noah Syndergaard and Zack Wheeler have all shown that they can pitch at a dominant level when they are injury-free. Free agent addition Jason Vargas, who was a first-time All-Star in 2017, also figures to be a valuable contribution to the rotation. It is unrealistic to think that all of these pitchers will stay healthy throughout the season. However, if a majority of them make upwards of 25 starts, the Mets figure to be in contention.

However, the health of New York's position players was also an issue last season. Thankfully, the Mets addressed this depth issue in the offseason. They have added a number of quality veterans, most notably right fielder Jay Bruce (who they had traded to the Cleveland Indians last August), third baseman Todd Frazier and first basemen Adrián González.

The arrival of a fresh face in new manager Mickey Callaway should also bring some extra energy to the team. While the Washington Nationals may be too much for the Mets to handle within the division, look for New York to be in the mix for a wild card spot.

The St. Louis Cardinals look primed to rebound after two mediocre seasons. The team has built a strong core of youngsters and veterans in the last several years that are capable of reaching the playoffs.

The team's big splash this winter was its acquisition of All-Star left fielder Marcell Ozuna, who was traded from the fire-selling Miami Marlins. Ozuna solidifies an

elite outfield, which also includes center fielder Dexter Fowler and outfielder Tommy Pham. Pham is looking to build upon his breakout campaign from 2017 when he led the team with a 0.306 batting average and a 6.4 WAR.

Pitcher Luke Weaver figures to be the team's most likely breakout player this season. The highly touted pitcher showed great potential after his call up last July and should be even more improved in his first full season in the big leagues. Pitcher Carlos Martínez and catcher Yadier Molina, who both represented the Cardinals in last season's All-Star Game, should also be difference makers this season.

Much like the Cardinals, the San Francisco Giants have been a dominant team in the MLB for years. However, the 2017 season was certainly one of the exceptions, as the Giants finished in the cellar of the NL West with an abysmal 64-98 record. Still, I consider last season a fluke and not the new norm for what may potentially be the most accomplished baseball franchise of this decade.

San Francisco has a stable winning culture, a bolstered roster and the added optimism of this year being an even year. Manager Bruce Bochy, pitcher Madison Bumgarner and catcher Buster Posey have all been with the Giants for their 2010, 2012 and 2014 championships. Their leadership will be critical for erasing

last year's debacle from the team's memory and reestablishing a winning environment in the clubhouse.

Also, the addition of center fielder Austin Jackson, third baseman Evan Longoria and outfielder Andrew McCutchen should serve to illustrate that the organization believes they are still capable of contending for a World Series. Bounce-back seasons from shortstop Brandon Crawford and pitchers Johnny Cueto and Jeff Samardzija will also be important if the Giants are to flip the script this coming season.

The Giants have more than enough talent on their roster to reverse their misfortunes from 2017. If they can put all of the pieces together, they will be right back in the thick of things in the ultra-competitive NL West.

Now let's shift over to the American League, where the Texas Rangers are a good bet to return to the playoffs after a one-year absence. First of all, this team has pop. The Rangers finished with 237 home runs in 2017, with nine players hitting at least 17 long balls. Although the team's ability to hit for average was definitely a concern, nobody other than ageless third

baseman Adrián Beltré hit over 0.300.

However, this leaves significant room for improvement. In particular, young sluggers Joey Gallo and Rougned Odor have shown tremendous upside. The two of them could become All-Star caliber players if they develop more consistency at the plate.

Texas also has a deep rotation. Pitcher Cole Hamels leads the way and exudes a strong veteran presence on the mound. However, other than Hamels, the Rangers lacked stability in their rotation last season. After a strong offseason, though, this no longer figures to be a concern. While the signings of fan favorites Bartolo Colón and Tim Lincecum may have caught headlines, it is the under-the-radar additions of Doug Fister, Mike Minor and Matt Moore that have truly solidified the Rangers' pitching staff.

The Rangers have their work cut out for them in a division that includes the defending champions, the Houston Astros. However, even if they cannot hang with the Astros, they should be in contention for a wild card spot. The Minnesota Twins reached the playoffs at 85-78 last season and I see Texas matching, if

not exceeding, that win total this year, which should put them right where they need to be to qualify for the playoffs.

The Mets, Cardinals, Giants and Rangers are all teams that have proven they can win in recent years and are looking to bounce back with strong 2018 campaigns. On the other hand, there are sometimes teams that come out of nowhere, such as last year's Twins team that dramatically expedited its rebuilding process. If I had to pick one team to be this year's breakout team, it would be the Oakland Athletics.

While the A's might not have the names of the aforementioned teams, you can always expect owner Billy Beane to assemble a team with several hidden gems. They also have the criminally underrated slugger Khris Davis, who is coming off consecutive seasons of 42 and 43 home runs. Davis may not be in Oakland much longer, so the A's need to capitalize on their time with one of baseball's greatest power threats.

The start of the MLB season is now just three weeks away. It will be interesting to follow these teams' developments throughout the rest of Spring Training and into the regular season. While they are not being mentioned among the World Series favorites, it is very possible for expectations to elevate significantly in the coming months.

MIT closes game with 9-1 run to beat Jays

BASKETBALL, FROM B12

Hopkins took back the lead after Vila and Kern each drove to the basket, giving the Jays two consecutive layups. With another MIT basket, the score was tied, and for the next nine minutes of play the lead continued to bounce back and forth.

After a three-pointer from Delaney and a pair of free throws from sophomore forward Harry O'Neil, the Jays regained the lead with under five minutes left, the score reading 49-46, in favor of the Blue Jays. However, the Engineers did not stay complacent, as a pair of free throws catalyzed a 7-0 run for MIT.

Doran, knowing that this game could be the last of his career, responded to MIT's run with a four-point run, tying the game up at 53. However, MIT came out on top during the last 80 seconds of play, going on a 9-1 run to finish out the NCAA second-round game. The final score ended up being 62-54 in favor of the Engineers.

Delaney reflected on the legacy of the team's two seniors, Doran and Flannery, and the impact they have made on the program moving forward.

"They showed all of us how to play and compete the right way, and they always set an example of how to play hard. Both of them were so instrumental for our success this year, and they brought our team close together," Delaney said.

He continued, discussing next year's season.

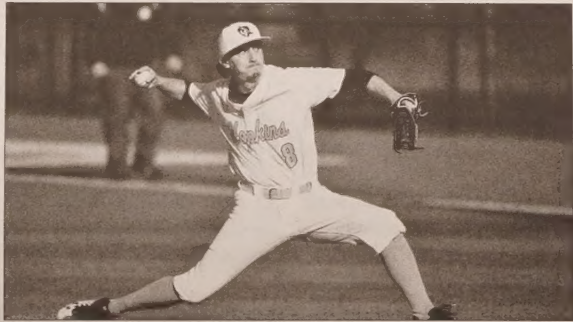
"We are going to miss them next year, but they are leaving the team in a great spot," Delaney said. "We have a lot of talent returning next year and we have a great group of incoming freshmen who will help us out right away, so I expect to continue to compete for championships."

As Flannery took his last dribble down the court, the clock ran out to end the Blue Jays' season. The crowd stood, chanting "Hop, Hop, Hop," to commemorate the men's basketball team's season, which consisted of multiple nail-biting double-overtime victories and a Centennial Conference Championship title.

By winning their first game against La Roche, Hopkins made it to the round of 32 for only the second time since the 2006-2007 season. The win in the first round also gave them a 14-game winning streak, which put them only three games short of the longest winning streak in program history.

"Even though we did not make it as far as we could in the NCAA Tournament, we still had a great season," Delaney said. "Centennial regular season and Tournament champs with a first-year head coach when we were picked fifth in preseason. I could not have asked for a better first season. Loeffler is a great coach, and playing for him this year makes me so excited for the next three."

Baseball beats No. 1 Cortland State in extra innings



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM

Junior Preston Betz pitched 7.1 innings of one-run baseball against Messiah.

By GREGORY MELICK
Sports Editor

This past weekend, Hopkins baseball hosted the Baltimore Invitational, with some of the top teams from throughout the East Coast coming to Babb Field to go up against one another.

After having their Friday game postponed due to inclement weather, the Blue Jays played the Rutgers University-Camden Scarlet Raptors on Saturday and the preseason No. 1 team in the country, the SUNY Cortland Red Dragons, on Sunday.

After the Baltimore Invitational games, Hopkins played another game on Monday at home against the Messiah College Falcons. All in all, this long weekend of competition turned out to be a mixed bag of results for the Blue Jays.

The first game of the weekend did not start out as planned, as two hits and an error put the Scarlet Raptors up by one run, with runners on second and third with only one out. Thankfully, starting junior pitcher Sean McCracken was able to get himself out of the tough situation, with back-to-back strikeouts to limit the damage to only one run.

After a swift bottom of the first, Rutgers-Camden was back to work in the second, again getting runners on second and third with only one out. McCracken would get the next two batters out but conceded a run on a ground ball out to shortstop.

The Hopkins offense continued to sputter, as they were retired after just three batters in four out of the five first innings, and they only had two hits through the first six. Meanwhile, the Scarlet Raptors were able to scratch one run across in the fifth before taking advantage of four walks between McCracken and senior pitcher Nick Bodner to score three runs and break open the game.

From that point, the Jays could not overcome the 6-0 deficit and eventually lost 11-2 for a disappointing opening to the Baltimore Invitational. Still, there were some offensive bright spots from the Blue Jays outfield that they could look to for motivation, as senior outfielders Zach Jaffe and Chris DeGiacomo and sophomore outfielder Chris Festa all reached base twice. Next up was a huge game against Cortland

State the following day.

To start off their game against the Red Dragons, Second-Team All-Region senior pitcher Alex Ross took the mound. The game was a pitching duel for the first three innings, as neither team could even register a hit.

The game continued to be a pitcher's duel throughout, with neither team ever going up by more than two runs. Junior pitcher Josh Hejka came in to relieve Ross in the sixth and pitched four scoreless innings of his own.

This is the third time Hejka has pitched against the Red Dragons in his career.

"I pitched against Cortland my freshman and sophomore year as well, and especially my first time facing them, I was a bit intimidated based on how good I had heard they were," Hejka said.

This time Hejka was not intimidated and took the fight straight to the Red Dragons.

In the 10th inning, sophomore shortstop Dillon Bowman had his first home run of the season, finishing the game for the Jays with a walk-off homer to beat the Red Dragons for the second straight year.

The win was a big lift for the Jays, but they still had to come back Monday and play for their third game, this time against Messiah. The Blue Jays scored the first three runs of the day in the first three innings.

Meanwhile, on the mound, junior pitcher Preston Betz did not allow more than one hit in any of his 7.1 innings. The Falcons' only run came on a home run in the fifth inning, and

Hopkins had a seemingly comfortable 3-1 lead entering the ninth.

However, the Blue Jays bullpen suffered in the final inning of the game and could not hold their lead. They surrendered five straight singles to put the Falcons up 4-3. In the bottom of the ninth, the Jays got a lead-off single that was extended to a double when the left fielder bobbled the ball. The Blue Jays could not capitalize on the opportunity as three straight strikeouts ended the game.

The pitching was very inconsistent for the Jays. Ross, Hejka, Betz and junior Jack Bunting combined only surrendered three earned runs and racked up 26 strikeouts in only 19.1 innings. The rest of the staff gave up 11 earned runs in 8.2 innings with seven strikeouts and six walks.

"Last year, the main strength of our pitching staff was how we made other teams earn their baserunners. We had the second or third highest strikeout to walk ratio in the country, and the fact that our team ERA was also among the best in the country is a testament to that," Hejka said. "So going forward, I am confident our staff will again be among the best in the country at limiting free bases."

The Blue Jays will look to bounce back from their rocky start this weekend as they approach another packed week of competition. They will play Manhattanville College Saturday, Stevens Institute of Technology Sunday and Salisbury College Monday, their last three games before heading down to Florida for their annual spring break tournament.

SPORTS

The NCAA does not live up to what it stands for



Matthew Ritchie
Sportpinion

With in the past couple of weeks, another scandal that the NCAA is all too familiar with reared its head again. A recent FBI investigation into the NCAA and its basketball coaches produced alleged evidence of Arizona University Wildcats coach Sean Miller discussing payment for star freshman forward DeAndre Ayton to land at the school. The FBI, who wire-tapped conversations between Miller and an associate from the ASM Sports agency, showed that there were multiple discussions to secure Ayton's recruitment to the Wildcats by way of a \$100,000 payment. Moreover, the FBI report does not only target the Arizona University basketball program. The damning FBI probe lists several high-caliber programs, including Duke, North Carolina, Kentucky, Kansas and Michigan State. The probe links these programs to impermissible payments to more than 20 college athletes.

The athletes who were allegedly getting paid were not a bunch of no-name bums either. The report listed that current Dallas Mavericks guard Dennis Smith Jr. received \$73,500 and former number one pick Philadelphia 76ers guard Markelle Fultz received \$10,000 in impermissible payments either before or during their college basketball careers.

Back in 2011, eight University of Miami football players were suspended for varying numbers of games because they received and accepted gifts and payments from Nevin Shapiro, a university booster who personally paid the athletes and treated them to nights of entertainment for recruiting purposes. Former University of Southern California superstar running back Reggie Bush was forced to give back his well-deserved 2005 Heisman trophy after it was discovered that he received close to \$300,000 in payments from third-party agents.

The NCAA continually punishes athletes on the receiving end of the benefits, though the programs often do not receive a punishment of the same kind of severity. The athletes are only receiving the compensation that they truly deserve, just not in the way that the NCAA wants it.

Cleveland Cavaliers superstar forward LeBron James remarked that the NCAA is a corrupt organization while taking ques-

tions after a practice. He gave a quick nod to the corruption by giving an idea of his potential recruiting process to powerhouse D-I schools.

"Me and my mom was poor, I'll tell you that, and they expected me to step foot on a college campus and not go to the NBA? We weren't going to be poor for long," James said.

LeBron's comments served to call out the long-standing corruption of the NCAA. The organization has been characterized by greed and selfishness whilst building its financial strength.

The NCAA is built off the ideals that because the student-athletes are amateurs, they should not be paid. It uses the basis of an education to defend the choice not to pay its athletes. The governing body believes that the compensation that these student-athletes deserve is given to them through their education. However, it has become apparent that a considerable number of the top-flight athletes attending these large institutions are not, in fact, receiving adequate schooling.

At North Carolina University, over a two-decade period, a large number of student-athletes partici-

The athletes are only receiving the compensation that they truly deserve.

ated in "paper classes," which required no attendance and only one paper. The "academic" values that the NCAA claims to uphold fall low on the

hierarchy of importance. It fails to provide an adequate level of education that would justify not providing the student-athletes with legitimate compensation.

The hypocrisy of the NCAA is highlighted in its refusal to pay its athletes. In previous years, the revenue from the D-I March Madness tournament produced close to \$1 billion.

With the introduction of the College Football Playoff for Division-I FBS football, the revenue of the NCAA shot up once again by way of ticket sales. And this is on the backs of the very players that provide them with the exciting product that allows them to make this kind of money.

Yet the NCAA continually refuses to pay its deserving athletes. The players who are so valuable to the NCAA do not receive the necessary credit for driving the revenue of the organization up the wall.

If the players are so important to these programs, their importance should be reflected in an appropriate level of compensation. You would not give Disney bucks to a person for their weekend trip to Caesar's Palace.

The student-athletes who dedicate long hours to their craft to put out a consistent product on the field should be paid with the funds that they produce with their play. Until the NCAA forks over the check that so many of its student-athletes deserve, it should be known as a corrupt system that mooches off hardworking athletes that do not see a dime.

By COURTNEY COLWELL
For The News-Letter

This past weekend, the Hopkins baseball team took on Rutgers-Camden and Cortland State in the Baltimore Invitational. Despite a tough 11-2 loss to Rutgers-Camden on Saturday, the Jays triumphed the following day against the No. 1 team in the country, the Cortland State Red Dragons.

After nine innings of regulation, the score was tied at 3-3. After a scoreless top of the 10th, thanks in large part to the efforts of junior pitcher Josh Hejka, the Jays took to the plate. In the team's first at-bat of extra innings, sophomore shortstop Dillon Bowman slammed a walk-off home run, securing the much-needed victory for the Jays. For his impressive performance in the face of immense pressure, Bowman has been named this week's Athlete of the Week.

While only a sophomore, Dillon Bowman has been a key contributor to the Blue Jays since entering Hopkins in the fall of 2016. Last year, he totaled 22 starts with 22 hits on the season, resulting in a 0.250 batting average. Meanwhile, his four home runs landed him in the record books as the fourth-best home run freshman hitter since 2010.

Given such a strong freshman season, Bowman's home run this past weekend should come as no surprise, as the sophomore is clearly calm under pressure.

Following his victory-clinching performance,

Bowman sat down with *The News-Letter* to discuss what the walk-off meant to him, as well as his personal goals for the remainder of the season.

The News-Letter: How have you transitioned from playing first base to shortstop this season? Which position do you prefer?

Dillon Bowman: I've transitioned well. I always played shortstop in high school and during summer baseball,

and it's my best position. Last year was the first time I'd ever played first base, so it was different and challenging, but I was happy to do it because it allowed me to play. I definitely prefer playing shortstop though and am happy to be back there this year.

N-L: Coming off a tough loss to Rutgers-Camden on Saturday, what adjustments did the team have to make going into your second game of the weekend versus Cortland State?

DB: In my short career at Hopkins, I'd never been a part of a loss like the one to Rutgers-Camden. That was the first loss I've experienced here where we got beat badly and didn't have a chance to win in the ninth inning. Our team expects to win every game.

We are all extremely competitive and know that we

can win a championship this year and every year we are on the Hopkins baseball team. So our attitude going into every game is very similar. I think our hitters did have to make an adjustment to the wind this weekend, though. It was blowing in hard from left field, and on Sunday we did a better job of drawing walks, hitting lower line drives and hitting the ball to right field where the wind wasn't as big a factor.

N-L: What was going through your mind when you stepped up to the plate in the bottom of the 10th inning?

DB: I have to get on base. I'd been seeing the ball pretty well all day, but I knew that for us to win I needed to do everything in my ability to get on base so that I could give the guys behind me a chance to get me in.

N-L: How did it feel to hit the walk-off home run against the No. 1 team in the country?

DB: It was amazing. I think that's the happiest I've ever been in my life. When I hit the ball, I thought it was too low to go out, so I was running hard to try and get to third base so that it would be easy for the guys behind me to get me in. When I was about to get to second base I saw the umpire signal for a

ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: DILLON BOWMAN — BASEBALL

VITAL STATISTICS

Name: Dillon Bowman
Year: Sophomore
Sport: Baseball
Major: Economics
Hometown: Greensboro, N.C.
High School: Greensboro Day School

home run, and I lost it. Seeing all the guys jumping up and down and going nuts and knowing that we had just walked off the No. 1 team in the country for the second straight year in a row was quite the experience. I'm glad I could help us get the win.

N-L: What are your personal goals, and what are the team's goals for the remainder of the season?

DB: I think it's hard to make personal goals in baseball. So much of the game is out of your control. You can go up to bat and hit the ball hard three times and get out every single time. So for me, my personal goals include having a high hard hit percentage, trying to cut down on strikeouts and doing whatever it is I need to do in any particular game to help us win. I know as a team our goal is to win the Centennial Conference Championship and ultimately the World Series.

Catch Bowman and the Blue Jays back in action on Saturday, March 10 at 2 p.m. when they take on the Manhattanville College Valiants.



HOPKINSSPORTS.COM
Shortstop Dillon Bowman.

W. Lacrosse takes down Furman Paladins in shutout

By BRANDON WOLFE
Staff Writer

Saturday afternoon's 35-mile-per-hour winds weren't the only thing on Homewood Field that was vicious. The Hopkins women's lacrosse team took no prisoners as they lit up the scoreboard in a 19-0 thrashing of the Furman University Paladins.

The Jays got off to a fast start barely a minute into the contest when sophomore attacker Maggie Schneidereith found junior attacker Nicole DeMase, whose bouncing shot beat the Paladins' senior goalie Maggie Friel, to notch the first of what would prove to be many Blue Jay goals.

Junior attacker Miranda Ibello followed up with a goal off a pass from senior midfielder Shannon Fitzgerald and an assist to sophomore midfielder Lexi Souder to extend the lead to three. Soon after, senior attacker Emily Kenul's free-position shot found the net to give Hopkins a 4-0 lead less than 10 minutes into the first half.

"Coming off of a two-game losing streak, we re-

ally focused on getting back to the basics, playing Hopkins lacrosse and playing with determination and discipline," sophomore midfielder Mackenzie Heldberg said. "I think during the game we focused on playing fast and composed and celebrating the little things as well as bringing excitement into the game."

The next 10 minutes saw the Blue Jays bury yet another four goals, with DeMase and Ibello each finding twine for their second goals of the game. Schneidereith would get some help from Kenul, whose pass found the sophomore deep in the Paladins' zone before she fired a low shot past Friel's feet. Heldberg would then take advantage of a free-position shot for her fifth goal of the season and the Jays' eighth goal of the game.

"We were all just connecting and flowing so well from defense to offense," Heldberg said. "A lot of people got the opportunity to play in the game and the level of play never dropped — everyone was intense and zoned in, and the sidelines were erupt-

ing with excitement."

Ibello would pick up her hat trick and 14th goal of the season on an unassisted strike, and 55 seconds later, Heldberg would pick up her second point of the day with an assist to senior attacker CeCe Finney. Kenul would cap off the first-half scoring with a free-position shot to put Hopkins ahead 11-0, as the teams headed into the locker rooms to close out the half.

Just as she had ended the first half, Kenul started the second half with an unassisted goal and a hat trick just 12 seconds after the whistle blew off of freshman midfielder Shelby Harrison's opening draw win.

Fitzgerald would break up Kenul's goal streak and pick up her first goal of the game on an unassisted strike. However, less than two minutes later, Kenul would once again find the back of the net for her fourth goal of the game as the Jays took a 14-0 lead.

Schneidereith and Fitzgerald would continue to extend the Blue Jay lead, each picking up unassisted goals. DeMase would pick up the third Blue Jay hat trick when she capitalized on a free-position shot.

The final two nails in the coffin would come when senior midfielder Caroline Shinske and senior attacker Eden Epner each found the net for their first goals of the season and the 18th and 19th respective goals of the day as Hopkins emerged the victor 19-0.

The Blue Jays dominated the shot totals, with 23 and

17 in the first and second halves, respectively, compared to the Paladins' six and three. Hopkins was also a perfect 17-17 on their clearing attempts and 5-11 on their free-position shots.

The goalkeeper trio of junior Haley Crosson, freshman Kathleen Garvey and sophomore Robyn Lipschultz held down the fort with strong defensive performances as the Blue Jays completed just their fourth shutout since they joined D-I and the first since 2009.

Kenul's four-goal performance improved her career count to 99, with one more making her the 11th Blue Jay in D-I history to reach the century mark. Harrison also won six draws to give her a career total of 37, which is the fifth highest in school history by a freshman, and earned Big Ten Freshman of the Week honors for her performance.

"I think we have an insane chemistry on our team that's going to take us really far this year. We are a super athletic and fast team, and everyone contributes to make each other better," Heldberg said. "We have so much depth from the freshmen all the way up to the seniors. Everyone has an important role, and I'm very excited to see how this season goes."

The victory gives the Jays a 4-2 record on the season with the Paladins falling to 1-4. Hopkins will next be in action Saturday, March 10 as they go up against the Hofstra University Pride at Homewood Field. The opening draw is slated for 1 p.m.



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Midfielder Shelby Harrison was named the Big 10 Freshman of the Week.

SPORTS

DID YOU KNOW?

The Hopkins men's and women's swim teams will be sending a total of 27 Blue Jays to compete in this year's NCAA Swimming and Diving Championships. The meet will take place at Franklin College in Indianapolis from March 21-24.

CALENDAR

Friday:
Wrestling @ NCAA Championships
T&F @ NCAA Championships

Saturday:
W. Lacrosse vs. Hofstra: 1 p.m.
Baseball vs. Manhattanville: 2 p.m.

T&F has 10 individual qualifiers for the NCAAs

By EMILIE HOFFER
Sports Editor

This past weekend, the Hopkins track and field team capitalized on their last opportunity of the season to qualify for the NCAAs. A total of 10 individuals will head down to Birmingham, Ala. this Friday to compete in the NCAA Indoor Track and Field National Championships.

A number of Jays headed to The Armory in New York City this past Friday and Saturday to compete in the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Championships. Junior Maya Hammonds started the weekend off for the Jays with an impressive performance on the first day of the pentathlon.

In her first event of the day, Hammonds set a new personal record in the 60-meter hurdles, crossing the line with a time of 9.17 seconds and taking first in the event. She followed up with another personal best and new school record in the high jump, jumping a height of 1.61 meters for another first-place finish.

Hammonds also managed to win the long jump, with a mark of 5.38 meters. She took eighth in the shot put, throwing a distance of 7.83 meters and third in the 800-meter run, finishing with a time of 2:36.41.

Finishing with a point total of 3,290, more than 80 points ahead of the second-place finisher, Hammonds became the new ECAC pentathlon champion.

Despite the dominant win, Hammonds will focus on the long jump at NCAAs this coming weekend, as her teammate, senior Jenn Su, will represent Hopkins in the pentathlon at NCAAs.

Meanwhile, on the men's side, sophomore Matthew Su won the long jump with a mark of 7.16 meters, setting a new school record and tying the Centennial Conference record in the process. Su will enter NCAAs seeded 12th in the event.

Junior Grant Mosser led the way in the heptathlon after the first day of competition, starting off with a fourth-place finish in the 60-meter dash, followed up by personal bests and first-place finishes in both the high jump and the long jump. He came in third after the first day of competition with a 10.23-meter throw in the shot put.

On the second day of competition, Mosser widened his lead in the heptathlon to solidify his ECAC championship title and book his ticket to NCAAs. Mosser dominated the competition in the second day, taking first in every event of the day: the 60-meter hurdles, the pole

vault and the 1,000-meter run. His 4,987 point total puts him at sixth in the nation heading into NCAAs.

While some of the Jays spent their weekend in New York, some of the team headed even further north for the Tufts Last Chance Meet. Highlighting the meet at Tufts was junior Felicia Körner's 3,000-meter run.

Coming into the race, Körner was in the last spot that would qualify for NCAAs.

"I knew I was going to have to defend my spot," Körner said. "There were a couple of other girls with the same goals, and I was trying to just see that as an opportunity for all of us to punch our ticket together. This whole season I have been so intent on qualifying, and I have raced a 3K every weekend for a month now in order to achieve that goal."

Körner won the race with the sixth-best performance in the nation this year and a season-best time of 9:49, solidifying her ticket to NCAAs this coming weekend. Körner will lead the Jays with the sixth-place seed and will be joined by classmate Tasha Freed and sophomore Rebecca Grusby, who enter the race as the 10th and 15th seeds, respectively.

"It is awesome that so many of us managed to qualify. Last year, only three of

us made it [to NCAAs], and I remember hoping that we would be able to grow that number in the future."

Last year, it was Körner who took home the silver in the indoor 3,000-meter

championships at NCAAs before suffering an injury later in the year.

"Qualifying was a lot harder for me this year," she said. "And the promise of being able to compete with my teammates was an added source of motivation."

Also joining Körner on the women's side will be freshman Therese Olshanski, who has already made a splash on the national stage in just her first season of collegiate racing. Olshanski is seeded second for the mile at NCAAs next weekend. Joining Olshanski in the mile is senior Caroline Smith, who is seeded 12th in the field entering the race this weekend.

Finally, junior Ellie Clawson, who had a breakout season this past fall, will race in the 5K. Clawson sits seeded at 12th, with just 12 seconds separating Clawson and the fourth-seeded runner.

This week, the Blue Jays will prepare for their biggest meet of the season as they head to Birmingham, Ala. for the National Championship competition, which will take place on March 9-10.

Baseball endures ups and downs in 1-2 weekend



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This past weekend, the baseball team beat the preseason No. 1 team in the country, SUNY Cortland, on a walk-off home run in the 10th inning from sophomore Dillon Bowman. Though that was the high point for the weekend for the Blue Jays, they lost their other two games. On Saturday, the Blue Jays were routed by Rutgers University-Camden, by a score of 11-2. On Monday, the Jays blew a 3-1 lead in the ninth inning against Messiah College.

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W. Lacrosse shuts out Furman 19-0

The women's lacrosse team records their fourth shutout since the program joined D-I and the first overall shutout since 2009. The Jays now carry a 4-2 record after this performance.

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Athlete of the Week: Dillon Bowman

Sophomore shortstop Dillon Bowman hit a game-winning home run to earn the Blue Jays their second straight walk-off victory against the No. 1 Cortland State Red Dragons.

PAGE B11

Baseball goes 1-2 on the weekend

The Hopkins baseball team split their games in the Baltimore Invitational and followed up their weekend performance with a 4-3 loss against the Messiah College Falcons on Monday afternoon.

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M. Basketball ends season in second round of playoffs

By ESTHER HONG
Sports Editor

A sea of white flooded into the stands of Goldfarb Gymnasium as the Hopkins community sported "white out" apparel to support their 12th-ranked men's basketball team this past weekend.

After a 61-57 victory against the Swarthmore College Garnet in the Centennial Conference Championships, the Blue Jays received not only an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament but also hosting privileges.

"It was a great weekend and an awesome opportunity for us to host the first two rounds of the tournament," freshman guard Conner Delaney said. "The crowd was great both games as they have been all year. It was a tough way to go out but it was a great experience for us."

The Jays hosted the La Roche College Redhawks, the MIT Engineers and the SUNY Brockport Golden Eagles, with their first opponents in the NCAA Tournament being the Redhawks on Friday evening.

Neither Hopkins nor La Roche came out with offensive dominance, as the score was only 29-25 in favor of Hopkins just over six minutes into the second half. However, with the crowd roaring, junior

guard Michael Gardner and senior forward Kyle Doran shifted the momentum, knocking in back-to-back threes within 30 seconds.

Delaney quickly followed with a shot of his own and a pair of free throws, improving the Jays' advantage to a 14-point lead. The Redhawks' junior Ryan Norkus found an opening for a layup to end La Roche's three-minute scoring drought, but Hopkins still comfortably led 39-27.

Norkus sparked an 8-0 run for the Redhawks to cut their deficit in half, the score now reading 39-33 with just over eight minutes left in the game.

After La Roche's eight-point run, the court saw some back-and-forth action, as the Blue Jays still held onto their 12-point lead with 6:22 on the clock.

Ranked second in the nation in scoring defense, the Jays continued to shut down La Roche's offense, keeping them scoreless for the next five minutes.

Redhawks junior Zach Gould attempted to stop the bleeding with just under two minutes left in La Roche's season, but Hopkins stayed dominant, as Gardner, Doran, Delaney, junior forward Daniel Vila and senior guard Jesse Flannery all contributed to the Jays' scoring spree.

La Roche, averaging 78.4 points per game, only

recorded 39 points in Friday night's game, as the Jays' defensive efforts proved to be too overbearing for the Redhawks.

Additionally, La Roche's 39 points were the fewest the Blue Jays have allowed in an NCAA Tournament game in program history. The final score of the NCAA first-round game was 52-39.

That same night, the MIT Engineers defeated the SUNY Brockport Golden Eagles 81-67 in their first-round matchup, giving the 19th-ranked Engineers a shot at the Jays the following night.

Saturday's night game started off with 11 lead changes during the first 10 minutes of the half, with neither team able to build up a lead of more than three points. However,

back-to-back three pointers by the Engineers ignited an 8-0 run, as Hopkins trailed 27-18 with five minutes left in the half.

With baskets from Flannery and freshman guard Joey Kern, the Jays fought back to keep the game within three. The Blue Jays continued this 11-0 run with offensive efforts from Vila and Gardner. The score was 29-27 in the Jays' favor as both teams headed to the locker rooms.

The Blue Jays brought their 11-point momentum into the second half, taking a 33-29 lead after Gardner and Delaney each put in a pair of free throws. However, two consecutive three-point plays gave the Engineers a two-point advantage.

Only 67 seconds later, SEE BASKETBALL, PAGE B10



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The Jays faced off against the MIT Engineers in front of a packed crowd.